

Vegan Monday: Breadsticks With Caraway Seeds

Ingredients:

Difficulty: Medium

(makes about 23-25 breadsticks, each about 28 cm long and 1 cm thick)

2.5 dl + 2 tbsp lukewarm water
15 gr. fresh yeast
1 tsp granulated white sugar or syrup
1/2 tbsp salt
500 gr. all-purpose flour
2 tbsp caraway seeds
1/2 dl extra virgin olive oil + 2 tbsp for brushing the dough
2 tbsp semolina

Instructions:

1. Pour some of the water into a bowl. Crumble fresh yeast into the water. Add sugar / syrup and mix with a spoon. Put aside.
2. Put salt in the rest of the water and dissolve it. Pour olive oil (1/2 dl) into the salted water.
3. In a mixing bowl, put flour and start to mix. Add caraway seeds and continue mixing it with flour.
4. Add yeasted water and salty water with olive oil to the flour - caraway seeds mixture and continue mixing until the dough starts to come along.
5. Lightly flour your working surface. Put the dough and little bits inside the mixing bowl and start kneading. Knead, for about 5 to 8 minutes until you have a soft, flexible dough. Love your cute little dough and pose with it.
6. Put a baking paper on an oven tray. Spread some semolina on the paper. Put the dough on semolina and flatten the dough as much as possible. Brush the dough surface generously with olive oil. Spread more semolina on the dough and cover it with something big enough while it's rising.
7. Preheat the oven to 220C.
8. When the dough has risen enough (doubled in size), cut strips from dough (1-1.5 cm thick), stretch the pieces a little and twist it a little here and there for extra crunchiness and put piece by piece on a new oven tray with baking paper. Brush each lightly with olive oil. I made them all in 3 batches, my breadsticks were about 28 cm each because of the size of the oven trays. If you have a bigger oven, your breadsticks may be longer (alternatively, smaller oven --> smaller sticks).

9. Bake each batch of breadsticks on the top rack of the oven for 18-20 minutes, until they are slightly browned and crunchy enough. Cool them to room temperature before eating. The breadsticks taste great on their own but they are also good with cheese (if you are not vegan), hummus, dips etc. Enjoy!