

...taste it!

Porcini Mayonnaise MAIONESE DI PORCINI

At the wonderful food store Gastronomia Peck in Milan, a signature garnish on their elaborate prepared seafood platters is a dollop of mayonnaise on a scampi tail or shrimp topped with a small, preserved porcini mushroom. This elegant combination is the inspiration for this very satisfying accompaniment to baked, grilled, or poached fish and seafood. Instead of using mayonnaise try this in shrimp, crab, or lobster salads. And for land-based occasions have it in sandwiches with cold roasted meats, turkey, or chicken salads.

Makes about 1 cup

- 1/4 ounce dried porcini mushrooms*
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon fine sea salt
- 1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 3/4 cup sunflower seed oil

Pour 1/2 cup hot water over the mushrooms in a small bowl. Let rest

Place the egg yolk, mustard, lemon juice, salt, and pepper in a food processor.

Take the mushrooms out of the water and gently squeeze to release as much water as possible from them. Reserve the remaining water in the bowl.

Roughly chop the mushrooms and add to the food processor.

Puree the mixture.

Add half of the oil in a slow, steady stream while the machine is running.

Add 3 tablespoons of the reserved mushroom water in a steady stream while the machine is running.

Add the remaining oil the same way as before.

Keep in an airtight container for up to one week in the refrigerator. Let rest for at least a half hour at room temperature before using.

* There are different grades of dried porcini mushrooms. For this recipe use number 1, grade A, or Extra Fancy. The lower grades are best for sauce, soups, and stews.

Note: The recipe contains raw eggs. People with health problems, the elderly, or those who are pregnant should avoid consuming food with uncooked eggs, which, in rare cases, carry the potential for Salmonella infections.

^{**} The mayonnaise can be used immediately or kept refrigerated for up to one week.