

# Arancini

#### Deep Fried Rice Balls stuffed with Ragù, Mozzarella and Peas.

### Ingredients (10 Arancini):

- 800ml. (3.3 cups) chicken or vegetable stock
- 250gr. (8.8 oz.) Arborio rice
- ½ tsp salt
- Very generous pinch of saffron
- 50gr. (1.7 oz.) parmesan or vegetarian alternative, grated
- 150gr. (5.3 oz.) mozzarella, chopped into chunks
- Fillings of your choice (meat ragu, pesto, sauteed mushrooms)
- 1 egg
- 170gr. (6 oz.) plain flour
- 500gr. (17.6 oz.) dried breadcrumbs
- Vegetable oil, to cook

#### Preparation:

- 1. Bring the stock to the boil in a medium pan, then tip in the rice, salt and saffron.
- 2. Bring back up to the boil, then turn down the heat and simmer on a medium heat until the stock has been absorbed.
- 3. Stir in the grated parmesan and season to taste, then leave to cool completely, preferably in the fridge you can spread it out on a tray to hasten this if necessary.
- 4. Stir the mozzarella into the cool rice and check the seasoning.
- 5. Roll a tablespoonful between wet palms to form a ball of your chosen size. Poke a hole in the middle and spoon your filling in, then plug the hole with extra rice. Repeat until all the rice is used up.
- 6. Beat together the egg, flour and enough water to make a thick batter (about 175ml), and season. Put the breadcrumbs on to a plate.
- 7. Heat the oil in a deep pan, no more than a third full, to 170C, or until a breadcrumb sizzles on contact. As it is heating, dip each rice ball into the batter to coat, then into the breadcrumbs, heaping them on top until it is well covered.
- 8. Cook in batches until golden brown, making sure the oil comes back up to temperature between batches, and drain on kitchen towel. Sprinkle with a little salt while still warm and serve hot or cold.

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## Buon Appetito!