

Crispy zucchini flowers with lemon & mint filling

Preparation 25 | Cooking 10 mins | Makes 8

175g fresh ricotta 2 tsp finely grated lemon zest 1/3 cup mint leaves, finely chopped 8 female zucchini flowers, stamens removed* 2 tbs self-raising flour Vegetable, grape seed or rice bran oil, for frying Sea salt, extra mint leaves and lemon wedges, to serve

Batter:

1 cup cornflour ½ cup self-raising flour 1¾ cups iced water

*Female zucchini flowers have a baby zucchini attached to the flower. Gently open the flower and pull out the centre stamen.

STEP 1 To make the batter, combine cornflour, flour and iced water in a bowl. Mix with a knife until just combined (the mixture will be lumpy). Set aside for 10 minutes.

STEP 2 Meanwhile, combine ricotta, lemon zest and mint in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper. Stir to combine. Spoon 1 tbs ricotta mixture into each zucchini flower and twist petals to enclose the filling.

STEP 3 Place flour into a shallow bowl. Pour oil into a large frying pan until 5cm deep. Heat oil over medium-high heat until hot. Lightly dust the zucchini flowers in flour then dip into the batter to lightly coat. Cook zucchini flowers in 2 batches, turning occasionally, for 2-3 minutes or until golden. Drain on a rack lined with paper towel. Serve with sea salt, mint leaves and lemon wedges.

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