

 SAVE RECIPE

 ADD TO MENU

APPLE + OLIVE OIL CAKE

COOK

REVIEWS (18)

YIELD: Serves 6 to 8

Double Recipe

INGREDIENTS

- heaping 1/2 cup / 80 g raisins
- 4 tbsp water
- 2 1/4 cups / 280 g all-purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1 1/4 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 cup / 120 ml olive oil
- 3/4 cup / 160 g superfine sugar
- 1/2 vanilla bean
- 2 free-range eggs, lightly beaten
- 3 large Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored, and cut into 3/8-inch / 1-cm dice

- confectioners' sugar for dusting (optional)

Maple Icing:

- 7 tbsp / 100 g unsalted butter, at room temperature
- scant 1/2 cup / 100 g light muscovado sugar
- scant 6 tbsp / 85 ml maple syrup
- 8 oz / 220 g cream cheese, at room temperature

} not doing

PREPARATION

1. Grease an 8-inch / 20-cm springform cake pan and line the bottom and sides with parchment paper. Place the raisins and water in a medium saucepan and simmer over low heat until all of the water has been absorbed. Leave to cool.
2. Preheat the oven to 325°F / 170°C. Sift together the flour, cinnamon, salt, baking powder, and baking soda and set aside.
3. Put the oil and superfine sugar in the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment (or use a whisk if you don't have a mixer). Slit the vanilla bean lengthwise in half and, using a sharp knife, scrape the seeds out into the bowl. Beat the oil, sugar, and vanilla together, then gradually add the eggs. The mix should be smooth and thick at this stage. Mix in the diced apples, raisins, and lemon zest, then lightly fold in the sifted dry ingredients.
4. Whisk the egg whites in a clean bowl, either by hand or with a mixer, until they have a soft meringue consistency. Fold them into the batter in 2 additions, trying to maintain as much air as possible.

oven. Bake for 1 1/2 hours, until a skewer inserted into the center comes out clean. Remove from the oven and leave to cool in the pan.

6. Once the cake is completely cold, you can assemble it. Remove from the pan and use a large serrated knife to cut it in half horizontally. You should end up with 2 similar disks. If the cake is very domed, you might need to shave a bit off the top half to level it.

7. To make the icing, beat together the butter, muscovado sugar, and maple syrup until light and airy. You can do this by hand, or preferably, in a mixer, fitted with the paddle attachment. Add the cream cheese and beat until the icing is totally smooth.

8. Using the icing spatula, spread a layer of icing 3/8 inch / 1 cm thick over the bottom half of the cake. Carefully place the top half on it. Spoon the rest of the icing on top and use the icing spatula to create a wavelike or any other pattern. Dust it with confectioners' sugar, if you like.



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Yotam Ottolenghi owns an eponymous group of restaurants in London, plus a high-end restaurant, Nopi, also in London. His 2011 cookbook, *Plenty*, was a *New York Times* bestseller. **Sami Tamimi** is a partner and head chef at Ottolenghi. Their 2012 cookbook, *Jerusalem*, was a *New York Times* bestseller and was awarded Cookbook of the Year by the International Association of Culinary Professionals.