Recipe: Short rib lasagna rolls

Giada De Laurentiis

Ingredients

• For the ribs:

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 1/2 pound beef short ribs
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt, plus extra for seasoning
- 1 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, plus extra for seasoning
- 1 onion, roughly chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, peeled and smashed
- 2 (4-inch) sprigs fresh rosemary
- 2 cups red wine, such as Pinot Noir
- 2 cups beef broth

• For the filling:

- 3/4 cup milk
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1 1/2 cups grated Pecorino Romano cheese
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1 (10-ounce) packet frozen spinach, thawed, drained and squeezed of excess liquid
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh basil leaves
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt, plus extra for seasoning
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, plus extra for seasoning

• For the assembly:

- 12 lasagna noodles (about 10 ounces)
- 1 (25-ounce) jar marinara sauce
- 1/2 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- Olive oil for drizzling

Preparation

For the ribs:

In a large Dutch oven or heavy-bottomed stock pot, heat the oil over medium-high heat. Season the ribs with 2 teaspoons salt and 1 teaspoon pepper. Add the ribs to the pan and cook for about 4 minutes each side until brown. Remove the ribs and set aside.

Add the onion, garlic and rosemary. Season with salt and pepper. Cook for 5 minutes until the onions are translucent and soft. Increase the heat to high. Add the wine and scrape up the brown bits that cling to the bottom of the pan with a wooden spoon. Add the beef broth and ribs to the pan. Bring the mixture to a boil. Reduce the heat to a simmer, cover the pan and cook for 2 1/2 to 3 hours until the meat is very tender. Remove the ribs and set aside until cool enough to handle, about 20 minutes. Discard the bones and cooking liquid. Using 2 forks, shred the meat into 2-inch-long pieces (to yield approximately 2 1/4 cups shredded meat).

For the filling:

In a medium heavy-bottomed saucepan, bring the milk and cream to a simmer over medium heat. Reduce the heat to low. Add the cheeses and whisk until melted and the sauce is smooth. Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the spinach, basil and garlic. Place the shredded meat in a medium bowl and pour the spinach mixture on top. Add the salt and pepper. Using a fork, mix until combined. Taste and adjust the seasoning with salt and pepper, to taste.

For the assembly:

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil over high heat. Add the pasta and cook until just tender but still firm to the bite, stirring occasionally, about 8 to 10 minutes. Drain and set aside.

Place an oven rack in the center of the oven. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Butter a 9-by-13-inch glass baking dish. Spread 1 cup of the marinara sauce in the bottom of the prepared baking dish. Lay 4 noodles flat on a dry work surface. Spread 1/4 to 1/3 cup of the filling mixture evenly along each noodle. Roll up and place seam-side-down in the baking dish. Repeat with the remaining noodles and filling to make 12 lasagna rolls. Spoon the remaining marinara sauce on top and sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Drizzle with olive oil and bake until the lasagna rolls are heated through and the cheese is beginning to brown, about 25 minutes.

Serving Size

4 to 6 servings