TASTE WITHOUT WASTE

Mediterranean Green Lentil Salad

Serves one as a main or two to three as a side.

Ingredients

30g dried green lentils
Bay leaf
3-4 parsley stalks
I tsp lemon juice
Large handful of rocket
Handful baby spinach
5 cherry tomatoes, quartered
5 pitted Kalamata olives, halved lengthways
50g green beans, topped and tailed
Small handful flat leaf parsley

Red Wine Vinaigrette:
1½ tbsp red wine vinegar
3 tbsp olive oil
1 tsp finely chopped flat leaf parsley
½ garlic clove, crushed
Salt and pepper to taste

Method

Rinse lentils and cover with water in a small pot. Bring to the boil; simmer for one minute then drain. Return to pot, along bay leaf and parsley stalks and pour over just enough cold water to cover. Simmer over a very low heat for approximately 10 minutes or until tender but not mushy. Drain, remove parsley stalks and bay leaf and transfer to a small bowl. Stir through lemon juice.

Meanwhile prepare dressing by adding all ingredients to a small jar. Screw the lid on tightly and shake to emulsify. Taste and adjust seasoning accordingly.

Bring a small pot of water to a rolling boil and add green beans. Cook for 30sec then remove and plunge into a bowl of iced water to refresh.

Mix half of the dressing through the lentils.

Arrange by layering three quarters of the lentils, the baby spinach and then the rocket on a plate/in a bowl. Scatter over the green beans, then the cherry tomatoes and olives and finally the remaining lentils. Top with the parsley leaves and drizzle over the remaining dressing. Finish with a grind of black pepper.

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