

Gougères

These small French cheese puffs, made with choux pastry, originate from Burgundy, where I grew up. They were traditionally served during wine tastings in cellars and are also popular as appetizers.

Ingredients

makes about 15 gougères

1/4 cup water
1/4 cup soy milk
2 oz vegan butter
(I use Earth Balance)
3 oz bread flour (*)
1/2 cup Just Egg
1/4 cup soy milk
(to mix with Just Egg)
1/4 tsp salt
3 oz vegan shredded
cheese
(I use Violife mozzarella)

(*) All-purpose flour can be used, but the puffs will be less airy. Einkorn allpurpose flour also works well but should be sifted first to prevent clumping.

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 400F.

1) Start choux dough.

In a small pot, combine water, soy milk, and vegan butter. Bring to a simmer, stirring until butter melts.

Add flour all at once. Reduce heat to low and stir continuously until the mixture forms a ball and easily comes away from the sides of the pot. Transfer dough to a bowl and cool to room temperature. To speed up cooling, flatten the dough and place in the freezer for 5 minutes. Important: Cooling is crucial to prevent the eggs from cooking when added to the dough. The eggs should only start cooking later in the oven.

2) Prepare the egg mixture and cheese.

In a small bowl, whisk together 1/4 cup soy milk, Just Egg, and salt. Chop the shredded cheese in small pieces.

3) Finish choux dough.

Once the dough is at room temperature, gradually incorporate the egg mixture, a few spoonfuls at a time. Mix thoroughly after each addition. Add cheese and mix.

4) Form and bake the puffs.

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Using a pastry bag with a round tip, pipe dough into small mounds (about 2" wide and 1" high) on the prepared sheet.

Bake for 30-35 minutes, until puffs are evenly golden brown.

Important: Do not open the oven door during baking to prevent puffs from deflating. Use the oven light to check their color in the final few minutes.

Best served warm. But can be kept for a couple of days, they will just soften a bit.