# Poached Pear & Crispy Goat Cheese Salad

with Escarole & Walnuts

With its sweet flavor and crisp, juicy texture, Anjou pear makes an ideal partner for tangy, soft goat cheese. With this recipe, we're taking things up a notch by coating slices of goat cheese with airy panko breadcrumbs, then pan-frying them to crunchy-onthe-outside, creamy-on-the-inside perfection. Poaching the pear in a liquid of verius (a tart grape juice), honey and spices imparts rich, delicious flavor. Over a bed of escarole and fennel, the goat cheese and pear are perfectly complemented by walnuts, fresh tarragon and mustard vinaigrette.





# Ingredients

- 1 Farm Egg
- 4 Ounces Goat Cheese
- 8 Ounces Escarole
- 1 Anjou Pear
- 1 Bunch Tarragon

#### **Knick Knacks**

- 2 Tablespoons All-Purpose Flour
- 2 Tablespoons Honey
- 1 Tablespoon Whole Grain Dijon Mustard
- ½ Cup Panko Breadcrumbs
- 1/4 Cup Walnuts
- 1/4 Cup Verjus Blanc
- ½ Teaspoon Whole Juniper Berries
- 1/2 Teaspoon Whole Yellow Mustard Seeds

**Makes 2 Servings** 

**About 610 Calories Per Serving** 

Prep Time: 10 min | Cook Time: 20 to 30 min



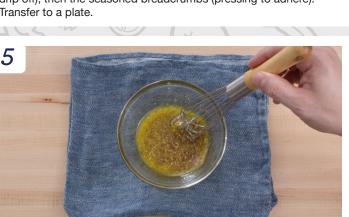
# Prepare the ingredients:

Wash and dry the fresh produce. Peel the pear and halve lengthwise; remove and discard the stem and seeds. Crack the egg into a medium bowl; beat until smooth. Slice the cheese crosswise into 6 equal-sized pieces. Trim off and discard the root end of the escarole; roughly chop the leaves. Pick the tarragon leaves off the stems; reserve the stems and roughly chop the leaves. Roughly chop the walnuts.



#### Coat the cheese:

While the pear poaches, place the **flour** and **breadcrumbs** into 2 separate bowls; season each with salt and pepper. Working 1 at a time, thoroughly coat each piece of **cheese** in the seasoned flour (tapping off any excess), then the **beaten egg** (letting the excess drip off), then the seasoned breadcrumbs (pressing to adhere). Transfer to a plate.



#### Make the vinaigrette:

While the cheese crisps, in a small bowl, combine the **mustard** and **2 tablespoons of the reserved poaching liquid** (discarding the rest); season with salt and pepper to taste. Slowly whisk in **2 tablespoons of olive oil** until thoroughly combined.



#### Poach the pear:

In a medium pot, combine the pear, verjus, honey, juniper berries, mustard seeds, tarragon stems and 1½ cups of water; heat to boiling on high. Once boiling, cover and reduce the heat to low. Simmer 16 to 18 minutes, or until the pear is tender when pierced with a knife. Using a slotted spoon, carefully transfer the poached pear to a cutting board; reserve the poaching liquid (carefully discarding the whole juniper berries and tarragon stems). When cool enough to handle, thinly slice the poached pear.



## Crisp the cheese:

While the pear continues to poach, in a medium pan (nonstick, if you have one), heat a thin layer of oil on medium-high until hot. Add the **coated cheese** in a single layer. Cook 1 to 3 minutes per side, or until golden brown and crispy. Carefully transfer to a paper towel-lined plate and immediately season with salt and pepper. Set aside to cool.



## Make the salad & plate your dish:

In a large bowl, combine the **escarole** and **all but a pinch of both the tarragon leaves and walnuts**. Add enough of the **vinaigrette** to coat the salad (you may have extra vinaigrette); toss to mix and season with salt and pepper to taste. Divide the **dressed escarole**, **sliced pear** and **crispy cheese** between 2 dishes. Garnish with the **remaining tarragon leaves and walnuts**. Enjoy!