Bucatini Pasta & Tomato Sauce

with Marinated Squash & Fresh Mozzarella

TIME: 25-35 minutes **SERVINGS: 4**

Making fresh pasta sauce is a simple, delicious way to showcase the best of the season's harvest. Tonight's gourmet pasta dish makes the most of juicy tomatoes and fresh basil, plus just a bit of butter for richness. And for a unique side, we're marinating tender summer squash, fresh mozzarella, and olives, softening them and brightening their flavors.



MATCH YOUR BLUE APRON WINE



Crisp & Minerally

Serve a bottle with this symbol for a great pairing.



Ingredients



3/4 lb **BUCATINI PASTA**



COCKTAIL **TOMATOES**



1/2 lb **FRESH** MOZZARELLA CHEESE



1 bunch BASIL



2 cloves GARLIC



1 bunch OREGANO



SUMMER SQUASH



1/3 cup GRATED **PARMESAN** CHEESE



2 Tbsps **BUTTER**



2 Tbsps TOMATO PASTE



2 Tbsps **RED WINE** VINEGAR



CASTELVETRANO OLIVES

















1 Prepare the ingredients:

- ☐ Heat a large pot of salted water to boiling on high.
- ☐ Wash and dry the fresh produce.
- ☐ Halve the squash lengthwise; thinly slice crosswise. Place in a large bowl.
- ☐ Using the flat side of your knife, smash the olives; remove and discard the pits, then roughly chop.
- ☐ Medium dice the mozzarella cheese.
- ☐ Pick the oregano leaves off the stems; discard the stems.
- Peel and roughly chop the garlic.
- Medium dice the tomatoes; place in a bowl and season with salt.
- ☐ Pick the basil leaves off the stems; discard the stems.

2 Marinate the squash & mozzarella:

☐ To the bowl of squash, add the olives, mozzarella cheese, vinegar, and as much of the oregano as you'd like. Drizzle with olive oil and season with salt and pepper; stir to combine. Set aside to marinate, stirring occasionally, for at least 10 minutes. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Transfer to a serving dish.

3 Cook the pasta:

☐ While the squash and mozzarella marinate, add the **pasta** to the pot of boiling water. Cook 8 to 10 minutes, or until just shy of al dente (still slightly firm to the bite). Turn off the heat. Reserving ½ cup of the **pasta cooking water**, drain thoroughly and return to the pot.

4 Make the sauce:

- While the pasta cooks, in a large pan (nonstick, if you have one), heat 1 tablespoon of olive oil on medium-high until hot.
- Add the **garlic**; season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring constantly, 30 seconds to 1 minute, or until fragrant.
- Add the **tomato paste**; season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring frequently, 1 to 2 minutes, or until dark red and fragrant.
- ☐ Add 1/2 cup of water. Cook, stirring occasionally, 3 to 4 minutes, or until thickened.
- ☐ Add the **seasoned tomatoes**. Cook, stirring constantly, 30 seconds to 1 minute, or until saucy.
- ☐ Turn off the heat; stir in **half the basil** (tearing the leaves just before adding). Season with salt and pepper to taste.

5 Finish the pasta:

- ☐ To the pot of cooked pasta, add the sauce, butter, and half the reserved pasta cooking water. Cook on medium-high, stirring vigorously, 1 to 2 minutes, or until thoroughly coated. (If the sauce seems dry, gradually add the remaining pasta cooking water to achieve your desired consistency.)
- ☐ Turn off the heat; season with salt and pepper to taste.

6 Serve your dish:

☐ Divide the **finished pasta** among 4 dishes. Garnish with the **parmesan cheese** and **remaining basil** (tearing the leaves just before adding). Serve with the **marinated squash and mozzarella** on the side. Enjoy!