Minestrone Soup

By Domenico Tolomeo

This classic minestrone soup bursts with the flavors of hearty vegetables, beans, and pasta simmered in a savory tomato broth, creating a comforting and nutritious meal for any occasion.

Yield: 4-6 servings Prep Time: 15 min Cook Time: 1 hr

Ingredients:

- 1 large yellow onion
- 2 medium carrots
- 3 ribs celery
- 70g (1/3 cup) Olitalia Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- 28oz can Ciao Authentica Crushed Tomatoes
- 32oz (4 cups) vegetable broth
- 3 medium Yukon Gold potatoes
- 1 medium green zucchini
- 1 medium yellow zucchini
- 15oz cannellini beans, drained and rinsed
- 4 bay leaves
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 2 cups water
- 10oz short-cut pasta (ditalini, pipette, small shells, etc.)
- 2 medium Parmigiano Reggiano rinds, approx.
 80g total (optional)



Instructions:

- 1. Finely dice the onions, carrots, and celery and place to the side.
- 2. In an 8oz stock pot, add the Olitalia EVOO and heat over medium heat for 1-2 minutes.
- 3. Add in the finely-diced vegetables and cook for about 15 minutes over low-medium heat or until soft. (Pro Tip: If you like your soup a little spicy, you can add a pinch of hot crushed pepper).
- 4. Meanwhile, dice the potatoes and zucchini.
- 5. After the vegetables have softened, add the Ciao Authentica Crushed Tomatoes, vegetable broth, potatoes, zucchini, cannellini beans, bay leaves, salt, and pepper.
- 6. Pro Tip: For a richer/creamier flavor, add in 2 Parmigiano Reggiano rinds, leave them in for 20-30 minutes, then remove.
- 7. Let simmer over low-medium heat for approximately 40 minutes uncovered, stirring occasionally, until the potatoes are soft to the touch.
- 8. After 20 minutes of cooking, add 2 cups of water and stir.
- 9. When there are 10-12 minutes remaining, add in the pasta and cook until al dente.
- 10. Garnish your soup with Parmigiano Reggiano and a drizzle of Olitalia EVOO. Serve and enjoy!