

NEOLITHIC INSPIRED MINCE PIES

These mince pies have been given a Neolithic savoury twist. Inspired by preserved food remains found near Stonehenge, we've created some festive pies that will add something special to your celebrations this year. For a veggie choice, simply substitute the beef and pork with grated carrots and parsnips. Tasty hot or cold!

INGREDIENTS

For the pastry

- 300g plain flour
- I 50g vegetable suet
- A few splashes of water
- Seasoning

For the filling

- 150g minced beef (or grated carrots (v))
- I 50g minced pork or sausage meat (or grated parsnips (v))
- 50g blackberries chopped
- 50g blueberries chopped
- 50g hazelnuts finely chopped
- 5 tsps crab apple jelly

For the decoration

A handful of crushed hazelnuts

Equipment:

Muffin tin, large bowl, rolling pin, pastry brush, 9cm and 7.5cm cookie cutters



Preheat your oven to 210°C Electric/190°C Fan/ Gas Mark 5.

Mix the flour and suet in a large bowl. Season.



Add the water, a tablespoon at a time, mixing with your hands until the dough pulls away to clean the bowl.



Drop the pastry ball onto a floured surface and turn to flour both sides. Roll out to 3-4mm thickness and with your 9cm cutter, cut out 12 circles. Keep the leftovers for the lids. Press into a non-stick muffin tin.



Combine all of the filling ingredients together in a bowl.



Spoon the mixture into the pastry cases all the way to the top and make sure it's well packed.



Roll out the remaining pastry and with your 7.5mm cutter, cut out 12 circles – these are your lids. Brush one side of the lid with water and place, water-side down, onto the pie, pressing around the edges to seal.



Once all of the lids are on, brush their tops with water and sprinkle with crushed hazlenuts.



Bake for 20-25 minutes or until golden brown and firm to the touch. If you're using meat, make sure the filling is piping hot and cooked through (no pink!).