

Coconut Chai Traybake

100ml vegetable oil, plus a little for greasing
300ml coconut milk
(not low-fat) - if the cream has separated in the can, give it a good mix before measuring
4 large eggs
2 tsp vanilla extract
280g light brown soft sugar
250g self-raising flour
75g desiccated coconut
1 tsp ground ginger
1 tsp ground cinnamon
 $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp nutmeg finely grated
 $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp ground cloves
10 cardamom pods, seeds removed and crushed using a pestle and mortar
4 tbsp ginger syrup (any sweet syrup will do)

For the topping and icing

3-4 tbsp coconut milk
140g icing sugar
2 balls stem ginger, finely chopped
chopped pistachios and coconut flakes (optional)

METHOD

Grease a 20 x 30cm baking tin with a little oil, and line the base and sides with baking parchment. Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Measure the coconut milk and oil into a jug. Crack in the eggs, add the vanilla and whisk with a fork to combine.

In a large bowl, mix the sugar, flour, coconut, spices and a pinch of salt. Squeeze any lumps of sugar through your fingers, shaking the bowl a few times so they come to the surface. Pour in the wet ingredients and use a large whisk to mix to a smooth batter. Pour into the tin, scraping every drop of the mixture out of the bowl with a spatula.

Bake on the middle shelf of the oven for 25 mins or until a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean. If there is any wet mixture clinging to it, bake for a further 5 mins, then check again. Leave to cool for 15 mins in the tin, then transfer to a wire rack and drizzle over the ginger syrup.

To make the icing, mix the coconut milk with the icing sugar until smooth. Drizzle the icing over the cake in squiggles, then scatter with the chopped ginger, pistachios and coconut flakes, if using. Eat warm or cold. Will keep for 3 days in an airtight container.