## Melitzanosalata (Greek Eggplant Dip)

**Melitzanosalata** is a simple Greek eggplant dip that takes simple ingredients to create amazing flavors. It's great with pita bread, or as an accompaniment to grilled meats or fish.

PREP TIME COOK TIME TOTAL TIME 40 minutes 55 minutes



## Ingredients

- 2 large eggplants
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- ¼ cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 lemon, juiced
- ¼ cup chopped parsley, plus more for garnish
- ¼ tsp red chili flakes
- salt, to taste
- pepper, to taste
- Optional Garnishes:
- scallions
- kalamata olives
- · cherry tomatoes
- feta cheese

## Instructions

- 1. Preheat oven to 425°F.
- 2. Cut the eggplants in half. Brush it all over with olive oil and place it flat side down on a foil or parchment pepper lined sheet. Pierce in several places with a fork. Bake for 30-40 minutes. (see note 1 for open flame instructions)

- 3. Once cooled, scoop out the flesh of the eggplant and place in a colander. Allow water to drain out for 10-15 minutes.
- 4. Transfer the eggplant to a mixing bowl and mash to a smooth consistency with a fork. Add in olive oil, minced garlic, lemon juice, parsley, red chili flakes, salt and pepper. Combine until well mixed.
- 5. Top with preferred garnishes and drizzle it with more extra virgin olive oil.

## **Notes**

- 1. The more traditional method involves cooking the eggplant, whole, over an open flame. To do this, set the flame to medium and place the eggplant directly on the flame. Rotate ever 3-4 minutes with tongs until eggplant is fully softened and skin is charred, about 15-20 minutes.
- 2. Leftovers: You can refrigerate leftover melitzanosalata 3-4 days in an airtight container. Make a big batch, as it goes great with so many things. We do not recommend freezing it.

Nutrition Information
Yield <sup>8</sup>
Serving Size <sup>1</sup>
Amount Per Serving
Calories 134
Total Fat 8g
Saturated Fat 2g
Trans Fat og
Unsaturated Fat 6g
Cholesterol 3mg
Carbohydrates 16g
Fiber 5g
Sugar 6g
Protein 2g

Nutrition information calculated by Nutritionix.