

Recipe of the Month - April 2025

Easter Rustica Pie:

Ready for the oven Ingredients

- Pastry Crust
- 4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 12 tablespoons very cold unsalted butter
- 4 eggs icy water as needed Filling
- 16 oz. ricotta, drained
- 2 large fresh eggs
- 1/4 cup grated Locatelli
- 8 oz. fresh mozzarella cut in a ½ inch chunks.
- 8 oz. thinly sliced Prosciutto cut into small chunks.
- 8 oz. pepperoni cut into small chunks.
- 8 oz. boiled ham cut in 1/2-inch chunks.
- 8oz. sopressata cut in ½ inch chunks.
- 4 Italian sausages removed from the casing browned.
- 1. In a large bowl combine the ricotta, pecorino, pepper and eggs.
- 2. Add the mozzarella, Prosciutto, Soppressata, pepperoni and sausage and mix well into the cheese mixture.
- 3. Pastry Crust Put the flour and salt in a food processor bowl fitted with the metal blade. Pulse to mix the dry ingredients.
- 4. Cut the butter into 1/2-inch cubes and drop them onto the flour and pulse the ma-chine in short bursts about 10 times.
- 5. The mixture should be crumbly.
- 6. Put in the eggs and pulse a few times to mix the eggs into the dry ingredients.

- 7. Sprinkle 3 tablespoons of water on top of the dough.
- 8. Pulse 6 times for just a second or two.
- 9. The dough should resemble cottage cheese.
- 10. Pick up some dough and press it together. If it doesn't hold together, add another teaspoon of water until dough clusters form.
- 11. Scrape the dough clusters onto a floured board and knead it together just to form a smooth, tight dough.
- 12. Form a flat disc and wrap the dough in plastic.
- 13. Refrigerate for a few hours before using.
- 14. Filling In a large bowl combine the ricotta, pecorino, pepper and eggs.
- 15. Add the mozzarella, Prosciutto, Soppressata, pepperoni and sausage and mix well into the cheese mixture.
- 16. Baking Directions Butter and flour a 9-inch spring form pan cut about 1/3 of dough and set aside.
- 17. Dust your work surface with flour.
- 18. With a rolling pin, roll out 2/3 of the pastry dough to about 15 inches in diameter. It will be about 1/8 inch thick.
- 19. Flour the top of the dough to avoid the dough from sticking to either the board or the rolling pin.
- 20. Place the dough in the pan to fully cover the bottom and sides. If the dough breaks just patch it.
- 21. Pour in the ricotta mixture.
- 22. Tap the pan on the board to ensure the filling is well settled.
- 23. Roll out the rest of the dough to cover the top of the pan. Roll the dough onto your rolling pin and unroll on the spring pan.
- 24. Paint the entire top and crust with an egg wash.
- 25. Bake in a 325-degree oven for 30 minutes.
- 26. Turn the pan in the oven so it cooks evenly

Ken Minicozzi

President