

SAFFRON BUNS

INGREDIENTS:

FILLING:

- 3/4 cup Milk
- 1/2 teaspoon Saffron Threads
- 1 teaspoon plus 1/4 cup Sugar
- 1/4-ounce packet Active Dry Yeast
- 3 1/2 to 4 cups All Purpose Flour
- 1/2 teaspoon Salt
- 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) Unsalted Butter, softened
- 1/4 cup Sour Cream
- 2 Eggs
- Raisins

GLAZE:

• 1 Egg, beaten



PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. In a small pot, heat the milk, saffron, and 1 teaspoon of sugar together until the milk is steamy. Remove from heat and stir to dissolve the sugar. Let cool until about 115°F–or warm to the touch.
- 2. Sprinkle the yeast over the warm saffron-infused milk and let sit for 5 to 10 minutes until foamy.
- 3. In the bowl of a stand mixer, whisk together 3 ½ cups of the flour, remaining 1/4 cup of sugar, and salt.
- 4. Make a well in the center of the flour and add the yeast mixture, eggs, butter, and sour cream. Mix the ingredients until well incorporated.
- 5. Switch to the dough hook of your mixer. On low speed, start to knead the dough. Slowly add additional flour, one tablespoon at a time, kneading to incorporate after each addition. Do this until the dough is still a little sticky to the touch, but does not completely stick to your hands when you handle it.
- 6. Shape the dough into a ball and place in a large bowl. Cover with plastic wrap.
- 7. Let sit in a warm place for 1 to 2 hours, until the dough has doubled in size.
- 8. Once the dough has doubled, gently press it down and knead it a couple of times. Break off a piece and form it into a ball about 2 inches wide.
- 9. Roll the ball out into a rope, about 14 inches long. Curl the ends in opposite directions, forming an "S" shape with spirals at each end.

PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS CONTINUED:

- 10. Place on a parchment lined baking sheet and repeat with the rest of the dough.
- 11. Cover with plastic wrap and place in a warm spot until the dough shapes double in size, approximately 30 minutes to an hour.
- 12. Preheat oven to 400°F.
- 13. Using a pastry brush, brush beaten egg over the tops and sides of the uncooked buns.
- 14. Place raisins in the center of each spiral.
- 15. Place in the oven and bake at 400°F for about 10 to 11 minutes (turning halfway through cooking to ensure even browning), until the buns are golden brown.
- 16. Remove from oven and let cool for 5 minutes.

