Cantiga's Kitchen

Spanish Romesco Sauce

- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 2 1-inch thick slices white crusty bread, torn into pieces
- 1 cup slivered almonds
- 4 Tbsp crushed or chopped garlic
- 2 tsp salt
- 1 28-oz can crushed tomatoes, or 2 lbs fresh tomatoes, skinned
- 2 red bell peppers, halved and seeded
- 2 Tbsp smoked paprika
- 5 Tbsp red wine vinegar

Directions:

Place halved bell peppers cut side down, on a cookie sheet, and broil in oven or BBQ until lightly charred. Cool.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

In a pan, heat olive oil over medium-high heat. Sauté the bread and almonds until they start browning. add the garlic and saute another 2 minutes.

Place the sautéed bread, almonds and garlic in a food processor and pulse. Add the remaining ingredients and purée until smooth.

Spread the sauce onto a cookie sheet and bake in oven for 10-15 minutes, until the edges begin to caramelize. Allow to cool. Transfer to a container and chill.

Romesco sauce can be used as a topping for roasted potatoes, steamed mussels, pasta, chicken, vegetables, or simply as a tasty dip. Leftovers can be frozen for future use.

Enjoy with Cantiga Wineworks Grenache or Grenache-Syrah!

