

*Arròs Negre* (Black Rice & Seafood Paella)

## Serves 6

2 4-gram packets squid ink (about 1 teaspoon each)
4 cups homemade fish stock or fumet
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 large garlic clove, minced
1/2 large onion, minced
1 pound unpeeled ripe tomatoes, chopped
1 large red bell pepper, cored, seeded & chopped
A pinch of hot red pepper flakes, to taste
1 bay leaf

1/4 cup dry white wine
3/4 teaspoons salt, or to taste
1/4 teaspoon pepper, or to taste
1/2 pound rock shrimp
1/2 pound squid, cleaned, bodies cut into rings and tentacles whole, briefly grilled
1/2 pound (2 min per person) large prawns, briefly grilled
1-1/4 cups short grain rice
1 lemon, cut into 6 wedges

In a small bowl, dissolve ink in 1 cup warm fish stock, and set aside.

In a paella pan, large skillet, or shallow flameproof clay casserole, heat oil and sauté garlic with onion over low heat for 10 minutes, or until soft. Stir tomatoes, red peppers, pepper flakes, and bay leaf; cook over medium heat for 15 minutes Add white wine, salt and pepper; cook until dry, stirring occasionally (lower heat toward the end). Remove bay leaf. Taste for seasoning.

Bring to a boil the fish stock with reserved fish stock and ink. Stir rice into paella pan; add boiling liquid. Cook for 15 minutes. Add rock shrimp and squid, pushing them down into rice; add prawns on top and cook for another 15 minutes. Turn heat off and cover pan with a cloth for 10- 15 minutes (the rice should not absorb all the liquid.) Check that the rice is cooked; if it is not, leave it a few more minutes with the cloth on.

Add lemons around the pan and pass Allioli separately in a sauceboat.

## *Allioli* (Garlic Mayonnaise)

Makes about 1-1/2 cups (Best to prepare this sauce the day before, to allow flavors to mingle and mellow out)

1-1/2 tablespoons minced garlic1 to 1-1/2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice, to taste1 egg, at room temperature1/2 teaspoon salt1-1/2 cups olive oil1/4 teaspoon freshly ground white pepper

In a blender or a food processor, purée garlic with egg. Mix oil with lemon juice in a pouring jar. With motor running, add oil mixture slowly, in a thin stream. Add salt and pepper and whirl an additional 10 seconds. Taste for seasoning. Transfer to bowl, cover, and refrigerate.

If mixture separates or does not thicken, correct it as follows: Pour all but 1 tablespoon of separated mayonnaise into another container. Add 1 tablespoon water to remaining tablespoon of mayonnaise in food processor. With motor running, add separated mayonnaise slowly; mixture should regain right consistency - if not, try again. It will work!

**Wine pairings:** Marimar Estate Dobles Lías Chardonnay Marimar Estate Mas Cavalls Pinot Noir Recipes from: *The Catalan Country Kitchen,* pages 109, 116 by Marimar Torres