Hamburger Soup -In a Pumpkin



This is a delicious and nutritious soup packed with beef mince, vegetables and bone broth. The pumpkin itself makes such a beautiful rustic serving dish.

Ingredients:

- 500g beef mince
- 1 onion, diced
- 2 carrots, diced
- 2 stalks celery, sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, diced
- 2 potatoes, diced
- Handful of spinach, kale, or silverbeet, chopped
- 1 tin crushed tomatoes
- 3 tbsp tomato paste
- 1 tbsp dried oregano
- 3 tbsp fresh thyme leaves
- Pinch of chili powder and nutmeg
- 3 cups beef stock
- Grated cheese and/or sour cream to serve

Method:

- 1. Place a whole pumpkin on a baking tray into a preheated 150°C oven for 10 minutes to soften the skin. This step just makes cutting into the pumpkin easier.
- 2. Meanwhile, in a large soup pot, brown your beef mince. Add the onion, carrot, celery, and garlic and stir for 5 minutes until everything is nicely caramelised. The browner the mince, the more flavourful the soup will be.
- 3. Add the remaining soup ingredients and stir to combine. Season with salt and pepper and bring to the boil.
- 4. Remove the pumpkin from the oven and, using a sharp knife, cut a circle out of the top. Make sure you cut at an inward angle so the 'lid' doesn't fall in when you put it back on.
- 5. Remove all the seeds and give the inside of the pumpkin a quick scrape with a spoon.
- 6. Ladle in the hot soup until the pumpkin is full. Place the lid on and transfer the whole thing back to the oven for 1.5 hours.
- 7. Test that the pumpkin is cooked by piercing it with a sharp knife.
- 8. Sprinkle over grated cheese and serve the soup, scraping the sides of the pumpkin with the ladle or spoon to ensure you are getting chunky bits of pumpkin too.