Toast of the Town



Bruschetta takes on the sea

Bruschetta is not new, but Giuseppe Tentori has gently reinvented the Italian classic. Tentori, chef of the recently opened Chicago seafood restaurant <u>GT Fish & Oyster</u>, tops toasted baguette slices with seared shrimp, a silky avocado-lime mixture and pink grapefruit. The rich avocado and acidic notes from both the lime juice and grapefruit segments are ideal foils to the sweet shrimp. A final dusting of pistachios adds crunch and a nutty kick to the dish. Consider this bruschetta an innovative appetizer for your next cocktail hour.

Seared-Shrimp Bruschetta with Grapefruit and Avocado

Recipe adapted from Giuseppe Tentori, GT Fish & Oyster, Chicago Yield: 4 appetizer-size servings Cook Time: 20 minutes

INGREDIENTS

Twelve 16-20 count shrimp, deveined and shells removed

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

2 avocados

2 tablespoons lime juice (about 1 medium lime), divided

2 tablespoons finely chopped cilantro

2 teaspoons finely chopped jalapeño (about 1 medium jalapeño)

1 grapefruit

1 small baguette, sliced into 1/4-inch slices

Extra-virgin olive oil

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

1/4 cup pistachios, toasted and chopped

DIRECTIONS

1. Place the shrimp on a small plate and season with salt and pepper. Cut the avocados lengthwise around the pits and remove the pits. Cut the avocado flesh in a crosshatch pattern and use a spoon to scoop the avocado flesh into a medium bowl. Combine the avocado with 1½ tablespoons of the lime juice and the cilantro and jalapeño.

2. Use a knife to remove the skin and any pith from the grapefruit flesh and slice along the membranes to remove the segments. Set aside.

3. Brush the baguette slices with olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Place the baguette slices in the toaster and toast until golden brown.

4. In a medium skillet set over medium heat, heat $1\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoons of olive oil and add the shrimp. Cook for one minute on one side, then flip and cook an additional 30 seconds on the other side. Transfer the shrimp to a bowl and toss with the remaining $\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoon of lime juice.

5. To assemble: Spread 2 tablespoons of avocado mixture on each baguette slice. Top with one or two pieces of shrimp and a segment of grapefruit. Sprinkle pistachios over the top and serve immediately.