PUMPERNICKELS

100 g softened butter 200 g brown sugar 3 tbsp malt extract 4 eggs 200 g rye flour 100 g wheat flour Pinch of salt 1 orange peel Handful of raisins Madeira or rum to macerate the raisins 1 tbsp cocoa powder 1 tsp ground cinnamon 1 tsp baking powder 1 tsp baking soda Handful of almonds, hazelnuts, or pumpkin seeds

1. Pour the madeira or rum on the raisins and leave them to macerate.

- 2. Whip the butter, sugar, and malt extract until it is fully combined. Add four eggs. Don't use the mixer. Just stir the eggs in.
- 3. Scrape the peel of the orange into long strips, but without the white pith. If you don't have a special scraper, use a small knife to cut off the orange part of the peel, then putting it on a cutting board to cut into long strips.
- 4. Roughly chop the almonds. Drain the raisins.
- 5. Mix the flour with the other dry ingredients. Add the orange peel, almonds and raisins to the butter and egg substance.
- 6. Merge the two elements, at first with a mixer, but then kneading by hand.
- Use a greased sheet pan or one with parchment paper on it. Pour two long strips of dough onto it. Bake in a 160–170 °C oven for 20 minutes. Immediately cut the strips into smaller pieces, because as they cool, pumpernickels become hard.

This is an ancient recipe for a treat that is delicious and aromatic. It will keep fresh for a long time, and the recipe is simple enough for a beginner.

