

ECUADORIAN Sweet Rolls

SERVINGS 30 PREP TIME 3 HRS COOK TIME 40 MIN

INGREDIENTS

- 6 1/2 cups bread flour
- 2 cups warm milk
- 1 1/2 tablespoons active dry yeast
- 2 eggs
- 8 tablespoons butter (softened)
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt

For the Topping:

- 1 egg
- 2 tablespoons butter (melted)
- 1/4 cup sugar

DIRECTIONS

- 1. Place the warm (but not too hot) milk in the bowl of a standing mixer. Sprinkle the yeast over the milk and set the mixture aside for 5 minutes, until the yeast is bubbly. (Note: If you can find fresh cake yeast (more easily obtained in South America than in the US), use about 2 ounces of the cake yeast instead of the dry yeast it adds authentic yeasty flavor to these rolls).
- 2. Add the sugar, 2 cups of the flour, 2 eggs, the butter (cut into small pieces), and the salt. Use the dough hook attachment to knead the mixture until everything is well mixed. Add the remaining flour gradually, 1/2 cup at a time. Knead until the dough is soft, smooth, and stretchy, adding a bit more or a bit less flour, as needed.
- 3. Place the dough in a large, lightly oiled bowl and let it rise in a warm place until doubled in size, about 1 1/2 hours.
- 4. Preheat the oven to 350 F.
- 5. Divide the dough into about 30 pieces. Each piece should be around the size of a golf ball (about 2 ounces each). Roll each piece of dough into a smooth ball. Place the balls of dough about 1 inch apart on a large buttered baking sheet (or 2 smaller baking sheets).
- 6. Lightly beat an egg, then brush the tops of the rolls with the beaten egg.
- 7. Let the rolls rise in a warm place until they have almost doubled in size, about 30 minutes.
- 8. Bake rolls until they are medium golden brown on top, about 30 to 40 minutes. Brush the tops of the rolls with the melted butter as soon as they come out of the oven, then sprinkle them with the sugar.

