Stuffed Eggplant Recipe

- 4 eggplants 4-5 tablespoons of olive oil Paprika to taste Salt and pepper to taste 500 g of lean minced meat 3 tomatoes 1 red pepper, diced 1 onion, chopped 200 ml of water A drizzle of olive oil 25 g of tomato paste 4 cloves of garlic, minced Chilli flakes (optional) Spices to taste Salt and pepper to taste 150g of grated light cheese 2-3 sprigs of chopped parsley
- 1 Trim the eggplants and peel them on the sides. Cut them lengthways into four slices.
- 2 In a small bowl, mix olive oil with paprika, salt, and pepper.
- 3 Place the eggplant slices on a baking tray lined with parchment paper. Brush them on both sides with the flavored oil mix.
- 4 Bake in a preheated oven at 200°C for 30 minutes.
- **5** Roughly cut the tomatoes and blend them to obtain a smooth puree.
- **6** In a non-stick pan, heat a drizzle of olive oil. Add chopped onion and minced garlic. Sauté until golden.
- Add the minced meat and cook until browned.
- 3 Stir in diced red pepper, followed by the blended tomatoes, tomato paste, chilli flakes (if using), salt, pepper, and spices. Add water and simmer for 5 minutes.
- **9** Transfer half of the baked eggplant slices to a baking tray. Top each slice with a portion of the cooked minced meat mixture.
- Sprinkle grated cheese over the filling.
- ① Cover each filled eggplant slice with another slice of baked eggplant.
- Bake the stuffed eggplants in the preheated oven for 15 minutes at 200°C.
- **13** Once cooked, garnish the stuffed eggplants with chopped parsley before serving.