

## "Cena de Navidad" in Præstø Privatskole

Last Friday I had a wonderful Christmas dinner. It was different from the ones I had had before: it was in Denmark, not in Spain; I designed the menu and was the leader in the kitchen, not my father; it was with quite a lot of 12 year-old kids, not with my small family, and it was in a school, not in my house. I could also say that it was a lunch and not a dinner, since it had to fit into the school hours, but that is a minor detail.

The idea came with one small talk about Spanish food and Spanish traditions in Christmas, and it sounded quite fun to cook 4 or 5 Spanish Christmas inspired recipes with a



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too - non-existing experience in the kitchen, looking for the recipes and asking my family, doing the grocery shopping for 24 people, and even cooking with another 44 hands around you in an unknown kitchen.

little bit more than 20 kids from 6th grade. I have to say that I am not really a chef, and that I am taking my first steps in the kitchen here in Denmark, because apart from baking, my father was the chef back at home. So the preparation was kind of stressful, just thinking what would be realistic to cook, knowing my - and probably the kids'



But let me tell you that despite this initial stress, the experience was so pleasant. We laughed a lot, we all learned quite a bit, we danced the jingle bells and we got to eat some good traditional dishes (the final menu consisted in tomato and ham, Spanish omelette and guacamole toasts; lamb leg with potatoes, red cabbage with apple and raisins and marzipan figures), far from the result of my father's or grandmother's dishes, but good tasting that is what matters to the palate.

Definitely, a really *hyggelig* morning!

Amanda

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