

Reading time: 14 minutes

So Yummy

At Christmas, chef Vítor's likes to repeat the classics / traditions.



Confit cod is the star of the celebration



06

Up to Date

Do It Yourself:

Grandma's gift wrapping, crowns and cookies: Check out the Christmas tutorial to awaken manual skills

44 What's up?

Meet the winners of the Christmas Design Contest and see the full list of employees celebrating Years of Home in 2020





28 B-side

How are the different traditions and experiences in Sovena's four geographies? Read more.





The Christmas festivities of chef Vítor Sobral

Abundance as tradition and the imagination to transform leftovers into new and tasty menus

The secret of a successful Christmas dinner for the Portuguese chef Vítor Sobral, a longstanding partner in the Sovena Group, is "to follow tradition and make those classic dishes again", he says. At the dining table of the renowned chef, cod is the star of the celebration. The ingredient can be used in different recipes: confit cod (see the recipe on page 5), slices of cod with a vegetable gratin, boiled cod with vegetables and egg, and roasted cod cheeks. For dessert, there are options to suit all tastes. Pumpkin fritters, sweet soles, doughnuts, queen's cake, orange tart, meringues,



egg custard (made by his mother) and rice pudding, compete every year for the prize of best dessert. The Christmas get together, whose main feature is a table full of food. holds particular importance for the chef. "The date has a special meaning for me. Wherever I am on December 24th, it's my mother's birthday and her children and grandchildren are always there in family gatherings. It's the only day of the year where we are guaranteed to all be there. This Christmas, it might be the first time in five decades that we're not", observes the chef.

For lunch on the 25th, chef Vitor Sobral opts for a wider variety of meat and fowl as the basis for the

the menu. Amongst the main dishes, there is roast kid, cockerel and roast loin of pork. To go with it, baked rice, cold pepper sauce and salad with winter lettuce from the home garden. The chef takes a particular interest in this festive season with leftovers from food. "With a bit of imagination, you can transform everything. Baked cod slices with vegetables is perfect for leftover cod", he suggests.





Eat well, waste less and save more are the objectives of the digital caption of the Fula brand, "Just enough and more".

The Sovena Group is committed to not wasting food and making the most of what it can offer through the caption "Just enough and more" on the Fula brand's social media. The campaign sets the challenge of helping Portuguese families to eat well. waste less and save more in a practical way. That's why Fula shares recipes with the aim of making the most of ingredients to give leftovers a new lease of life. The caption "Just enough and more" is supported by the influencers

Filipa Gomes, Paula Bollinger, Isabel
Zibaia, Ana Rita Clara, Rita Rugeroni and
Francisco Garcia. Every month, they
share recipes that use leftovers.
Pumpkin cupcakes, banana and
chocolate cake, fried vegetables,
vegetable fritters and fishcakes are
some of the recipes to savour that are
shared on the brand's social networks.



Confit cod with baked potatoes

At the dining table of the Portuguese chef Vítor Sobral, cod is the centre of the celebration.







TYPE OF MEAL Christmas dinner



PREPARATION TIME 120 min



Portions 10 People



DIFFICULTY *Easy*

Ingredients:

Confit cod

2kg soaked dried cod

10 garlic cloves, sliced

1 bay leaf

300 ml Olivari Marmelo Estate Reserve EVOO

1 teaspoon of peppercorns

Baking potatoes

1kg new potatoes for baking

3 garlic cloves, sliced

Rosemary to taste.

Paprika to taste

100 ml Olivari Marmelo Estate Reserve EVOO

50 ml white wine

PREPARATION:

For the confit cod:

Mix together all the ingredients and cook in extra virgin olive oil, with the oven heated to 302°F, for 30 minutes. The oil should cover the cod completely.

Let the oil cool, strain it and keep in an airtight container in a cool place. Use for future cooking with cod and fish, or confits.

Confit cod can be enjoyed with a garnish of choice, or it can be flaked for other recipes, such as cod au gratin, rice with cod, cod pasta, cold or warm salads, etc. It should be added when the cooking of these dishes is near completion, as the cod is already cooked.

For the oven baked potatoes:

Combine all the ingredients, spread on a tray and bake, covered with aluminium foil, in an oven heated to 302°F for approximately 60 minutes. Remove the cover and let it brown a little.







It's time to brush up on those manual skills

2020 will definitively go down in history as a period in which we had to adapt to a new reality. Whether in our personal or professional life, it is a fact that there is always some positive lesson to be taken. One of them is the need to develop manual skills and make things with our own hands. Christmas is an excellent time to strengthen our skills in this noble pursuit.

In that spirit, the Sovena Group focuses on DIY and suggests ways to make sustainable gift wrapping, customize a Christmas wreath to hang on your doorstep and also recipes for tasty treats to give as gifts. We can all shine this Christmas.



Creative and environmental gift wrapping

Making gift wrapping for a Christmas present is much easier than choosing from what's offered in stores. All that is needed is a little creativity and confidence. Using a smooth surface for support is also essential. Take a piece of paper (a sheet of kraft, newspaper or from a magazine) of a suitable size for what you want to wrap, sticky tape, string and a sprig from a plant (rosemary is a good idea). Then center the gift in the middle of the reusable paper,

fold at the ends so that you can wrap the present and use sticky tape to fasten. Put the string on the centre of the wrapping, stretch round the sides and wrap around the largest area. Cross the thread to go through the smallest part of the package and tie a loop. To finish, position the sprig under the string, fasten with sticky tape, and write a personalised message on the wrapping.











Personalized wreaths

Decorating the house for Christmas is something special we should do for ourselves. The decorative accessories that can be given a handmade touch are wreaths to hang on doors.

According to tradition, this object symbolizes luck and is hung at the entrance to welcome visitors. The wreath can be personalized in lots of different ways. One suggestion is to use dry eucalyptus branches, six pine cones and wire. Bend the wire to form a circle. Then intertwine a eucalyptus branch around the structure and repeat this stage until the wire is full.



If necessary, use a nylon thread to hold the branches together. Finally, fit the pine cones between the branches and the wire, ensuring they are secure, and hang from your front door. You can also substitute the branches with baubles from the Christmas tree or even use a felt fabric base with collages made from different items symbolizing Christmas.





Grandmother's recipe book

To give your celebrations an extra special flavor, how about going back to your grandmother's recipes and making some tasty biscuits for the family? The ingredients for the dough are: 2 whole eggs, 2 egg yolks (keep the whites for the icing), 500g of flour, 125g of brown sugar, 120m of vegetable oil,

cinnamon, ginger and orange zest to taste. Mix all the ingredients in a bowl or food processor to make a smooth and flexible dough. Roll out the dough until it is about 3mm thick and cut the biscuits into shapes of your choice. Place in a preheated oven at 356°F for around 15 minutes.

After cooling, decorate the biscuits with the topping. For the icing: add the egg whites and two tablespoons of sugar in a mixer, at low speed, and gradually add the remaining sugar.

Add a spoonful of lemon juice and beat until the icing is smooth. You can also add food colouring, mixing well. Enjoy!













Length of service

The Length of Service Awards initiative began in 2018 for the entire Sovena group and in the last 3 years it has been wonderful to celebrate this event with our employees. 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 or up to 40 years employed at Sovena... That's a long time and we can only say THANK YOU...! Thank you for being part of the Sovena story and all the professionalism, dedication, hard work and commitment over the years. We are immensely proud that you are part of Sovena.



Sovena Portugal: Algés' Unit

5 years



Francisco Matias



Pedro Freitas



Filipa Sousa



Sara Mandeiro



Elsa Da Silva



Gustavo Barros



Andreia Albuquerque



Catarina Lopes



Susana Rodrigues



Cleto Balbino

10 years



Jorge Andrade



Bruno Nunes



Nuno Costa

15 years



Tânia Diogo



Francisco Bilé

15 years



Tomás de Almeida

25 years



Agostinho Lobo

30 years



Madalena Manta

35 years



Rui Gomes

40 years



Francisco Redondo



Sovena Portugal: Barreiro's Unit

10 years



Fábio Travessa



Cláudia Costa

15 years



Carlos de Jesus



Ana Paula Santana



Miguel Vale



David Rafael

20 years



Carlos Pinto



João Pereira

40 years



Ana Maria Figueira

Sovena Portugal: Palença's Unit

5 years



Rodrigo Toledo



Luís **Teixeira**



Jorge Lopes



Paulo Teixeira

10 years



João **Antunes**



João Chasqueira



Hugo Ferreirinho

15 years



Sara **Rodrigues**



Henrique Teles Feio



Roberto **Martins**



Sovena Portugal: Palença's Unit

25 years



Eduardo Jorge



Luís Lemos



Vasco Rodrigues

30 years



Alberto Rego Monteiro



José Favinha

35 years



Teresa Almeida

40 years



José Carneiro Silva

Sovena Spain: Brenes' Unit

5 years



Tomás Molina



Juan Carlos Espejo



Francisco Díaz



Pablo Cabrerizo

10 years

Inma Garrido

63



David Pino



Sergio Muñoz

15 years



Carmelo Blanco



Felipe Copano



Trinidad Sánchez



Sovena Spain: Brenes' Unit

15 years



José Álvarez

20 years



Felipe Artesero



Francisco Urbano



Alberto Medina



Antonio Daza



Gabriel Estevez

25 years



Francisco Márquez

Sovena Spain: Andujar's Unit

5 years



Manuel Merchán



Raúl Sabariego



Pedro Corpas



Alicia Díaz



Juan Carlos Blanco



Rafael Estepa



Salvador Jiménez



Francisco Alcaide

10 years



Carmen Rodríguez

15 years



Eduardo Servent



Sovena Spain: Andujar's Unit

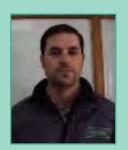
15 years



Juan Almansa



David Cátedra



Francisco Jesús López

30 years



Juan Berzosa



Jesús García

40 years



M^a Dolores Muñoz

Sovena Spain: Agropro

5 years



Maria Nebreda



Victor Iniesta

Sovena Spain: Plasencia

5 years



Rosa Batuecas



José Palacios

Sovena Brasil

5 years



Tatiane Pimentel



Felipe Gevaerd



Paula Guedes



Douglas Royer



Rodrigo Palini



Sovena Brasil

5 years



Alexander Lopes



Gilsoney Menezes

Sovena USA

5 years



Cindy Sanderson



Jennifer Bartlett



Stephen Hajec



Randy Lugo



Heather Magliocca



Nicholas Rappa



Karen Pitts



Michael Rusaw II

10 years



Ana Gagne



Gerald Jones



Anthony Tuzzolino

15 years



Ramo Klempic

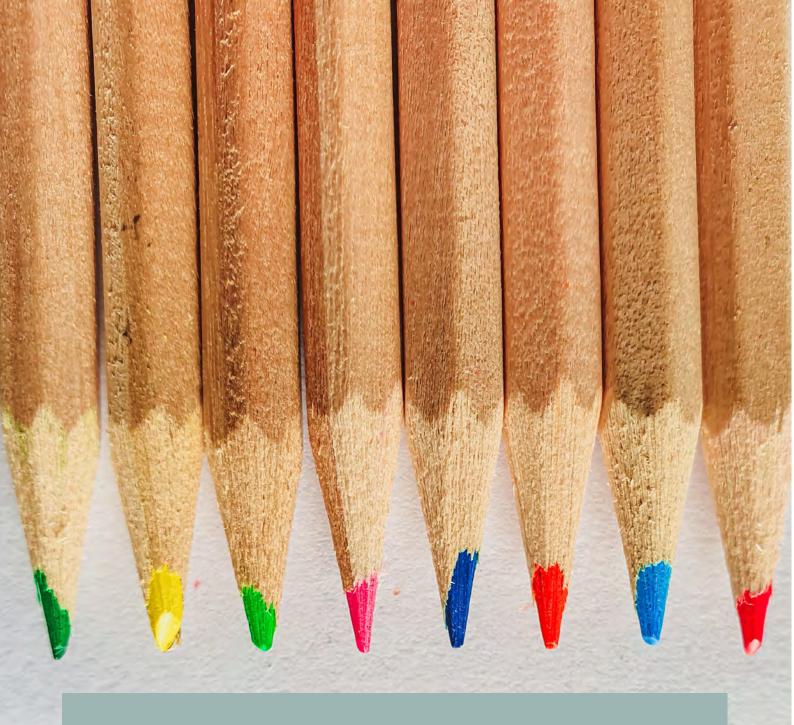


Ricardo Colon

20 years



Rasim Velic



Christmas Designs

The Sovena Christmas Designs
Competition started in 2017 in Portugal,
and was extended to Spain in 2018 and
Brazil in 2020. It's a way to get the little
ones at home involved in Sovena's latest
trends... Safety, Healthy Eating, Sustainability and this year the Future of Food.

It's always a joy to see the designs come in... And how lovely the designs by our artists are!

Thank you everyone who took part and we hope you take part again next year, ready to Feed Futures!

Vera Ramos, People & Culture Manager.





Algés



Marta Perotoner 7 anos



Maria Leonor Teixeira 6 anos



Madalena Carvalho 8 anos



Andujar



Hugo Martín 6 anos



Helena García 10 anos



Daniela Torres 5 anos



Barreiro



Leonor Ferreira 12 anos



Isis Matias 9 anos



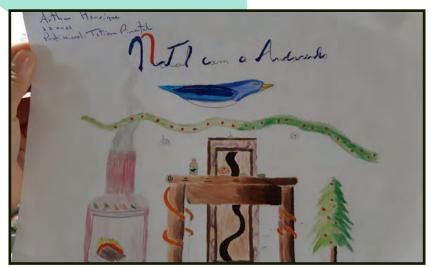
Constança Ramos 10 anos



Brasil



André Gordilho Lima 6 anos



Arthur Henrique 12 anos



Heitor Henrique 6 anos



Brenes



Francisco Jimenez 8 anos



Martina Gomez 7 anos



Miguel Martin Duque 10 anos



Palença



Alicia Sousa 6 anos



Diogo Santos 11 anos



Maria Santos 4 anos



Plasencia



Bruno Real Alba 9 anos



Candela Grande Jarque 4 anos



Alba Crespo Puertas 6 anos







B-side

It's Christmas time

Christmas is synonymous with family, warmth, sharing, tradition, faith, food on the table, a decorated house, humanity and many other meanings. The celebration is a portrait filled with cheer from our family gatherings, no matter their size or style. Let's get wrapped up in the stories of our contributors from different parts of the world who have shared their wonderful experiences. From the celebrations that started on Thanksgiving in the United States, to family members who dress up as Mother Christmas in Brazil, to the creation of a Christmas tree with wooden parts at the Barreiro refinery (Portugal) and New Year's Eve traditions in Spain.





ANA COSTA

Customer Service Coordinator (Portugal)

"It's gathering as a family, sharing presents and friendship. It's also seeing different members of the family who only meet up at Christmas time".

"All families enjoy having lots to eat. Christmas without cod isn't Christmas. We tend to make boiled cod with potatoes and onions. Those who don't like it very much have it in a cream sauce or roasted in the oven with baked potatoes and cabbage on the side".

MARCELO GAIA

Sales Manager (Brazil)

"Father Christmas symbolizes the hope of giving and receiving love, the gift that doesn't necessarily need to be physical".

"In our house, it's a custom to make a mini-dinner for the Holy Family and the Baby Jesus. We put out flowers, fresh bread, fruit and a glass of wine for them". "As we are celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, we aren't very sad, but it's likely that it will be the first Christmas I spend without my parents".





AURORA ORTEGA

Quality and Environment (Spain)

"The faces of the kids when they see the processions and open their presents, that's the magic of Christmas".

"The main tradition is the family meal where we all meet on the 31st. The whole family takes part in the preparation of the food. For example, my sister-in-law makes the desserts, my mother the soup and meat, my sisters make the snacks and as I'm not very good at cooking, I bring along the oil for cooking".





TATIANE PIMENTEL

Administrative Manager (Brazil)

"I've done volunteer work for NGOs at Christmas.

Charity is all about attending to people, being present and interacting. We get a lot more out of it than the recipients". "I'm a single mother, so I dress up as Mother Christmas". "In spite of the quarantine this year, I didn't see it as a difficult time. I try to keep a positive attitude. For me at least, it wasn't a bad year".



Sarah Conestabile

Treasury Analyst (USA)

"Christmas time begins on the day after
Thanksgiving (26th November). It's when my
mother and I put up the tree and decorate the
house. We spend most of December getting
ready for the holidays. In the first week, my
mother makes homemade Italian sausage which
we cook on Christmas Day. Then we spend the
following weeks making cakes and a dough filled
with raisins, nuts and honey". "For us, Christmas
celebrations are all about family, food and
helping out the less fortunate, so we don't
bother much with presents for adults. Only the
kids get them".





Nuno Cristóvão

CT Refinery (Portugal)

"It's a special time as people are more receptive. They help out and get together. People who are sad leave their troubles behind". "My father dressed up as Father Christmas every once in a while. Now that I've got a small son, I'm the one who does that."



WANT TO TAKE PART IN THE NEXT FEED?

Send your suggestions and ideas to marketing@sovena.pt