

## **Coffee and White Chocolate Cheesecake**

150g chocolate biscuit crumbs
100g melted, unsalted butter
200g white cooking chocolate broken into small pieces
1 tbsp gelatin powder
750g cream cheese
¼ cup caster sugar
3 tsp vanilla bean paste
150ml thickened cream, whipped

3 tsp freeze-dried instant coffee granules (I use Moccona)

Extra sugar for sprinkling on top (I use demerara sugar, but any will do)

- 1. Line the base and sides of a 22cm cheesecake springform tin
- 2. Combine the biscuit crumbs and butter in a bowl until it resembles wet sand, then press firmly into the base of cheesecake tin. Keep in the fridge to set while making the cheesecake mixture
- 3. Melt the chocolate in a heatproof bowl, over a pan of simmering water. Stir occasionally using a metal spoon
- 4. Meanwhile, beat the cream cheese, sugar and vanilla until smooth. I use a stand mixer, but an electric beater would do the job
- 5. In a small jug, add the gelatin powder and 1/3 cup boiling water. Stir briskly using a fork. Continue until gelatin has melted
- 6. Add the gelatin to the white chocolate and whisk together thoroughly, then add this mixture to the cream cheese mixture and beat until well combined
- 7. Divide this cheesecake mixture evenly into two bowls
- 8. To one half, add the whipped cream and fold through until combined
- 9. Dissolve the coffee in one tbsp of boiling water and add this to the other half of the cheesecake mixture. Combine thoroughly
- 10. Pour the coffee cheesecake mixture onto the chocolate biscuit base, then top with the white chocolate mixture. Refrigerate overnight for best results
- 11. Before serving, turn out cheesecake onto a serving dish and sprinkle the top of the cheesecake with extra sugar. Use a kitchen blow torch to brulee the top of the cheesecake (burn the sugar into a thin layer of toffee). Now you are ready to serve!

## \*\*NOTE\*\*

I like a thin brulee layer on top of this cheesecake, but if you want thicker toffee, add more sugar (however, in this case I suggest cracking the toffee topping before slicing. This will help to make the job of slicing the cake into neat pieces a little easier!)