CULINARY COMFORTS

Recipes by Bea Tollman and the chefs of Uniworld

FRENCH ONION SOUP

INGREDIENTS

SOUP

3 Tbsp (45 ml) unsalted butter, cut into 3 pieces

6 large yellow onions (about 4 lbs [1 ¾ kg]), halved and cut top to bottom into ¼-inch (¾-cm) slices

Table salt to taste

Ground black pepper to taste

½ cup (120 ml) white wine (recommended: Riesling, Pinot Blanc, Alsace Gewürztraminer)

2 cups (475 ml) water, plus extra for deglazing

4 cups (950 ml) chicken broth

2 cups (475 ml) beef broth

6 sprigs fresh thyme, tied with twine

1 bay leaf

1/2 cup (120 ml) Madeira

CHEESE CROUTONS

1 small baguette, cut into ½-inch (1 ¼-cm) slices and toasted on both sides (optional: Top slices with garlic butter)

8 oz (225 g) shredded Gruyère cheese



PREPARATION

- 1- Sauté the onions with the butter in a soup pan until the onions are golden brown. Add salt and pepper, and then deglaze with the white wine, water and broth. Add the bay leaf and thyme and let cook slowly for 45 minutes.
- Pick out the thyme and bay leaf and adjust the seasoning to taste.
- 3- Add the Madeira and pour the soup into soup bowls. Place the baguette slices on top, sprinkle with the cheese and bake until the cheese melts.

SERVES 6