## **Tuscan Bean Soup**



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Recipe by: Laura Vitale

Serves 4

Prep Time: minutes Cook Time: minutes

## Ingredients

- \_\_2 15oz cans of Cannelini Beans, rinsed and drained
- \_\_1 Large Onion, diced
- \_\_4 Cloves of Garlic, minced
- \_\_2 Tbsp of Extra Virgin Olive oil
- \_\_1 Tbsp of fresh Thyme Leaves
- \_\_3 ½ cups of Chicken Stock
- \_\_2 Tbsp of Heavy Cream
- \_\_Salt and Pepper to taste
- \_\_6 oz of Pancetta, diced
- \_\_6 Fresh Sage Leaves, chopped

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## For the Costini

- \_\_Fresh Baguette slices
- \_\_Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- \_\_Freshly grated Parmiggiano Reggiano

- 1) In a large pot over medium heat, sauté the onions and garlic with 1 tbsp of olive oil, season with salt and pepper and let it cook for about 7 to 8 minutes or until translucent and slightly golden.
- 2) Add the fresh thyme and the beans, give them a stir to combine with the onions and add the stock. Bring to a boil and let it cook for about 10 minutes.
- 3) Meanwhile cook the pancetta and sage in a small sauté pan until they are nice and crispy. Drain on a paper towel lined plate and set aside.
- 4) Meanwhile place the baguette slices on a baking sheet and drizzle them with a bit of olive oil, bake them at 400 deegrees for about 10 minutes, then top them with some freshly grated parmiggiano and put them back in the oven for 4 to 5 more minutes.
- 5) Add the heavy cream and stir, using an emergent blender, puree the soup until desired consistency, adjust the seasoning to taste and ladle in a soup bowl. Top with some of the crispy pancetta and sage and serve the parmesan crostini along side.