#### THE RIVER CAFE LOOK BOOK



#### PHAIDON

#### **PUMPKIN SOUP**

This is a great dish to make in the autumn when pumpkins are at their best. Cutting pumpkin can be very difficult so make sure you have someone to help you.

#### **Ingredients:**

3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, plus extra to serve 50g (3 ½ tablespoons) butter 2 cloves garlic, very finely sliced 1 tablespoon sage leaves 1.5kg (3lb 5 oz) pumpkin, peeled, deseeded (seeded) and cut into large cubes 1 large potato, peeled and cubed 1 red chilli

sea salt and freshly ground black pepper 1 litre (34 fl oz/4 ¼ cups) chicken stock (broth) 3 tablespoons freshly grated Parmesan, to serve 1 tablespoon crème fraîche, to serve

Serves 6

- 1. Heat the olive oil and butter in a pan over a medium heat.
- 2. Add the garlic and sage leaves and fry for 5 minutes.
- **3.** Add the pumpkin and potato, then fry for 1 minute.
- 4. Add the chilli and season well with salt and pepper.
- 5. Pour in enough stock to just coverthe pumpkin.
- **6.** Bring to the boil.
- 7. Reduce the heat to low and simmer for 20–25 minutes until the pumpkin is tender.
- 8. Strain about one third of the stock (broth) from the pumpkin into a bowl and set aside.
- **9.** Pour what is left in the pan into a food processor.

- **10.** Pulse quickly until the mixture is very thick.
- **11.** Return the mixture to the pan.
- **12.** Add the strained stock and stir. The soup will be very thick.
- **13.** Taste, then add more salt and pepper, if needed.
- **14.** Serve with the Parmesan, a drizzle of olive oil and the crème fraîche on top.