



**THAI E-SAN**

Lunch Special  
**\$6.49**  
11a-3p • M-F



**SERVING VEGETARIAN UPON REQUEST.**  
Gluten Free.  
If it's not on the menu, ASK, we are happy to prepare for you!

**NEW RESTAURANT ALERT**

**Chef Nobuo Fukuda Officially Planning Downtown Izakaya**



**Christopher Mayo's Croque Monsieur**



**FnB Gets Attention from New York Times, Food + Wine**

## Pie Snob Traci Wilbur Does the Meringue

By Cheri Biggs in [Recipes](#)

Thu., Feb. 11 2010 @ 11:33AM



Yesterday, Chow Bella **got to know Traci Wilbur** and her local bakery, **Pie Snob**. The pie business keeps Traci hopping with deliveries to local cafes and custom orders, including a recent **pie social** where Traci turned out **27 pies**.

When asked about the logistics of making **so many pies at once**, Traci explains that it doesn't really take long, once she gets into a rhythm.

Luckily, Traci agreed to slow the dance down a bit and **offer a lesson on how to whip up the perfect meringue crust**.

To get a good meringue, Traci recommends **starting with a metal bowl wiped down with a small amount of lemon juice**. The acidity from the lemon cuts any oil residue that might be on the bowl which is very important because even the smallest amount of oil can prevent the meringue from standing up. And you want your meringue to stand up.

**The meringue ingredients are simple:**

- 4 large egg whites
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ½ teaspoon cream of tartar



Search

Blogs Only

[Advanced Archive Search >>](#)

### Most

[Recent](#) [Commented](#) [Viewed](#)

[Table for Six: Meetup's Culinary Cupid](#)

[6 Last Minute Valentine's Day Don'ts](#)

[This Week In Chow Bella:](#)

[Chef Nobuo Fukuda Officially Planning Downtown Izakaya](#)

[Urban 7's Menu](#)

[More Recent Entries...](#)

### Reader's Picks

[BARS](#)  
[RESTAURANTS](#) [MEMBERS](#)

- Weekly
- Music
- Promotions
- Dining
- Events

Subscribe

E-Mail Address

**The Notorious P.I.G.**  
*all American BBQ*

*Click Here*



602.992.3700

meringue is ready when the bowl can be held upside down with no loss of contents, but she admits that she doesn't always use this test herself.

Once the meringue is whipped, Traci uses a pastry pipe to make shapes or spoon it into a nonstick pie pan or spring pan. To finish the crust, she bakes the meringue in a 250 degree oven for 1 hour to 1/2 half, testing by light touch at the end to see when the crust is no longer tacky.

The completed shells are perfect filled with fresh berries. Tracy also drizzles them with chocolate.



Seems simple enough, so what can go wrong? If the bowl contain no oil residue to prevent the mixture from forming and the sugar was fine enough to prevent weeping, over mixing can still cause the meringue to become lumpy and begin to separate.

In any case, Traci recommends that you just start over. Start over? "Don't worry about it," she says with a smile. "Just keep plenty of eggs on hand and no one has to know."

Tags: Pie Snob, Traci Wilbur

Post a Comment [Social media icons]

Name: [input field]

Email: [input field]

URL: [input field]

Remember personal info?

Comments (you may use HTML tags for style):

[Large text area for comments]

Comments may not show up immediately after submission. Please wait a minute after posting a comment for it to appear.

Top Recommendations

A short list of Phoenix's most popular hot spots.



The Salt Cellar Restaurant, Scottsdale, AZ



Richardson's Cuisine of New Mexico, Phoenix, AZ



Barcelona, Scottsdale, AZ



Sanctuary Resort, Paradise Valley, AZ



Macayo's Mexican Kitchen, Phoenix, AZ



Clubhouse Music Venue, Tempe, AZ

user content provided by: LikeMe.net & NewTimes

Slideshows



Month In Food Porn: January 2010



\$5 Belgian Beer Tasting at Taste of Tops



Month In Food Porn: December 2009

More Slideshows >>

Twitter Updates

Now Click This

- Phoenix Art and Soul
Follow New Times Events on Twitter
Follow New Times Coverage on Twitter
Digital Jukebox
New Times Street Team
Add New Times on Myspace
Become a New Times fan on Facebook

Free Classifieds Phoenix, AZ

- buy, sell, trade (10,605)
musician (1,466)
rentals (6,849)
jobs (1,662)
adult entertainment (12,413)

PERSONAL OF THE DAY



hourglassgirl

More about what I am looking for: "Someone who's a little bit bad boy and a little bit Buddhist."

More Personals >>