

# Pesto Tuna & Bean Salad

By Chef Veera Gaul, Ph.D.



## Ingredients

(\* indicates my preferred ingredients – see notes for alternatives)

2 cans drained tuna

1 can drained and rinsed chick peas or white beans (cannellini or great northern)

1/4 cup minced parsley

1/4 cup diced red onion

1/4 cup O&V Roasted Red Peppers, chopped \*

3 tablespoons O&V Pesto Limone \*

1-2 tablespoons O&V Basil EVOO \*

2 tablespoons O&V Tomato Pulp vinegar \*

Salt and pepper to taste

## **Preparation**

Mince the parsley, dice the red onion, chop the roasted red peppers.

Soak the diced red onion in a bowl of cold water for 15 minutes. Drain and pat dry.

Flake the tuna, drain and rinse the chick peas/ white beans and add to a bowl. Add the parsley, onion, roasted red peppers and toss to combine.

In a separate small bowl combine the pesto with the tomato pulp vinegar and drizzle in some Basil EVOO (start with just one tablespoon and add more if needed to get to a mixable consistency)

Stir the pesto combination into the tuna mixture. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Serve cool or at room temperature with crostini or in a sandwich or over a bed of salad greens.

#### Serves 4

Active time 15 minutes Total Time: 15 minutes

#### Notes

\* The <u>Pesto Limone</u> adds a wonderful herbaceous and citrusy flavor to the tuna and the <u>Tomato Pulp vinegar</u> adds nice tang. The <u>Basil EVOO</u> adds a nice extra layer of herby taste, helping to get the pesto to the right consistency. You can use a home-made pesto and add lemon zest and lemon juice to it. Any good quality <u>Unflavored EVOO</u> can be substituted but it will diminish the nice basil flavor. And a good quality red wine vinegar may be used instead. The **Roasted Red peppers** are an easy add, but feel free to roast your own peppers, chop and add if you prefer.

For a dairy free option, use <u>Pesto alla Genovese</u> or for some heat, use <u>Pesto Picante</u> but don't forget to add a little lemon zest and lemon juice.

All highlighted products are available at Oil & Vinegar stores

Categories: Entrée, Gluten Free, Dairy Free Option, Fish, Seafood, Tuna Salad Sandwich, Summer Eating, Easy Lunch, Pesto Limone, Pesto alla Genovese, Basil EVOO, Cabernet Red Wine Vinegar, White Beans, Chickpeas, Pesto Picante