MEDITERRANEAN LIFESTYLE GROUND RULES



1. USE EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL AS THE PRIMARY SOURCE OF DIETARY FAT. INCLUDE ALSO WHOLE OLIVES;

WEIGHT LOSS GOALS MAY TEMPORARILY REQUIRE A REDUCTION IN YOUR OLIVE OIL CONSUMPTION. HOWEVER, WHEN YOUR GOAL IS WEIGHT MAINTENANCE, AIM TO CONSUME APPROXIMATELY 40ML DAILY. AS WELL, CONSUME 1-2 SERVES OF WHOLE OLIVES PER WEEK, 1 SERVE IS 8 KALAMATA OLIVES.

2. EAT AT LEAST 5 SERVES OF VEGETABLES EACH DAY;

LOAD UP ON 200G (2 CUPS) OF GREEN LEAFY VEGETABLES, AND THEN PACK SOME PUNCH WITH 200G (2 CUPS) OF OTHER FAVOURITE VEGETABLES THROUGHOUT THE DAY. BE SURE TO USE ONION, GARLIC AND HERBS FOR LOADS OF FLAVOUR AND NUTRITIONAL BENEFIT.

3. CONSUME 2 SERVES OF DAIRY EACH DAY;

GET YOUR DAIRY FROM EITHER 30G OF REDUCED FAT FETA, 200G (3/4 CUP) OF LOW FAT NATURAL GREEK YOGHURT AND/OR 250 ML (1 CUP) OF LOW FAT MILK.

4. HAVE RED MEAT NO MORE THAN ONCE A WEEK AND PREFERABLY CHOOSE GRASS FED MEAT. CONSUME UP TO 2 SERVES OF POULTRY AND UP TO 2-3 SERVES OF EGGS PER WEEK;

AIM FOR LEAN CUTS OF RED MEAT AT 120G A SERVE. AVOID PROCESSED MEATS SUCH AS SAUSAGES AND DELI MEATS. WHITE MEAT INCLUDES CHICKEN, QUAIL AND TURKEY AT 150G A SERVE. 2 EGGS ARE EQUIVALENT TO 1 SERVE OF PROTEIN.

5. INCLUDE AT LEAST 3 LEGUME-BASED MEALS EACH WEEK;

½ CUP OF DRIED LEGUMES OR 1 CUP OF COOKED LEGUMES IS EQUIVALENT TO 1 SERVE

6. EAT AT LEAST 4 SERVES OF FISH AND UP TO 1 SERVE OF OTHER SEAFOOD ONCE A WEEK;

PRIORITISE OILY FISH (RICH IN OMEGA 3) SUCH AS SALMON, BLUE-EYE TREVALLA, BLUE MACKEREL, SARDINES (FRESH AND/OR TINNED), TINNED SALMON, BARRAMUNDI AND BREAM WITH A SERVING SIZE OF 150G. IN ADDITION TO THIS, ENJOY THE SAME PORTION OF SEAFOOD (OCTOPUS, OYSTERS, PRAWNS, SQUID AND CUTTLEFISH) ONCE A WEEK.

7. GET A VARIETY OF FRESH AND DRIED FRUIT EACH WEEK AIMING FOR 2 SERVES DAILY;

CHOOSE 40G OF DRIED FIGS, PRUNES AND DATES AS YOUR DRIED FRUIT CHOICE OR 1 MEDIUM-SIZED PIECE OF FRUIT, CITRUS OR 1/2 CUP BLUEBERRIES. BE SURE TO INCLUDE 100G (1/2 CUP) TOMATOES THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

8. CHOOSE WHOLEGRAIN BREADS AND CEREALS WITH MEALS. INCLUDE UP TO ONE SERVE STARCHY VEGETABLE, 3 TIMES A WEEK;

DEPENDING ON ACTIVITY LEVELS CHOOSE 3-8 SERVES DAILY. A SERVING SIZE IS ROUGHLY 1 SLICE OF BREAD OR 1/2 CUP OF COOKED GRAINS OR 1 MEDIUM (1/2 CUP COOKED) POTATO.

9. HAVE 1 SERVE OF NUTS EACH DAY;

A HANDFUL (30G) OF MIXED UNSALTED ALMONDS, WALNUTS AND/OR PISTACHIOS EACH DAY. 1 SERVE OF NUTS EQUATES TO 12-15 ALMONDS, 7-8 WALNUTS OR 20 PISTACHIOS EACH DAY.

10. ADULTS: DRINK WINE IN MODERATION; CONSUMING NO MORE THAN 1 STANDARD DRINK EACH DAY, AND PREFERABLY RED WINE (150ML).