What's handier than a Chilli paste in a Tube? Harissa is a hot chilli paste that originates from Tunisia, North Africa. It is commonly used as a dip or marinade, or to add to dishes like stews to add a vibrant red colour and heat. Harissa's heat is especially good with sweet vegetables like squash, carrots, and fennel. Mixing the paste into certain meats can add a zingy texture to the meal, try it with a pork crown roast, leg of lamb, or even chicken legs.