

Recipe Book

Friends & Family

26 May, 2023

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Bo Kho

Vietnamese beef stew known for its rich and aromatic flavors. It features tender beef chunks, carrots, onions, lemongrass, and warming spices like star anise, ginger, and garlic, slow-cooked in a flavorful broth until the meat is melt-in-your-mouth tender.

Ingredients

- 1.5 lbs of tendon
- 1 lb of beef flanks
- 1 lb of short rib
- 1 lb of chuck roast, cut into cubes
- 2 large carrots, peeled and sliced
- 1 medium whole onion
- 3 medium shallots
- 1 tbsp of garlic powder
- 3 Stalks of lemongrass
- 1 tsp of MSG
- 1 tbsp of ginger, sliced
- 1 Packet of Bo Kho Seasoning
- 1 tbsp of Rock Sugar
- 1/2 Cup of “Better Than Bouillon Beef”
- A Can of Coconut Water
- 1 tbsp fish sauce

Instructions

1. Bring a pot of water to a boil. Add 1 tsp of salt and add 2 stalks of chopped up lemongrass.
2. Boil all the meats for 30 min. Then rinse and cut into large bite-sized cubes.
3. Dice onion and shallots.
4. Place cuts of meat into a mixing bowl. Marinate meat with bo kho seasoning powder, lemongrass, diced onion, diced shallot, ginger, garlic powder, MSG, tossed until combine. Set aside for 30 min-1 hr or overnight.
5. In a large pot, fry 1 tsp of oil over med-high heat. Add in marinated mixture and stir fry in pot for about 5-10 mins.
6. Pour in can of coconut water.
7. Pour in enough water to cover meats.
8. Turn heat to high and wait until boil.
9. After stock is boiled, reduce heat to low-medium.
10. Simmer for 2-3 hours or until meat and tendon has soften.
11. Occasionally skim oil from broth surface.
12. Roughly 30 minutes before meat is tender, add in fish sauce.
13. Adjust taste to preferred preference. Enjoy!

Tilapia Fried Fish Paste

“Cha Ca” in Vietnamese, is a popular dish that is made by marinating bite-sized pieces of tilapia fish in fish sauce, garlic, and other spices. The marinated fish is then pan-fried until crispy and served with rice noodles, herbs, and a variety of accompaniments.

Ingredients

- 3 filets of tilapia fish; thawed, washed, and dried
- 1 tsp of salt and pepper
- 1 tsp of sugar
- 2 tsp of fish sugar
- 1 tsp of garlic powder
- 1/2 tsp of corn starch
- 1 tbsp of ice cold water
- 1/2 tbsp of olive oil

Instructions

1. Throw all ingredients in blender, excluding ice cold water.
2. Blend for 10 seconds until all ingredients are mixed.
3. Occasionally adding ice cold water a little at a time until necessary until there is a bouncy consistency.
4. After 4 to 5 min of blending, pour out into a clean bowl. If mixture is runny, add corn starch; otherwise chill for 1 hour or overnight in the fridge.
5. After chilled, heat a pan with oil with med to high heat.
6. Cover hand with oil and shape paste into desired shape.
7. Fry until golden brown. Enjoy!

Goi Ga

Vietnamese chicken salad made with poached chicken, shredded vegetables, herbs, and a fish sauce-based dressing. It is a refreshing and flavorful dish commonly eaten as a light meal, and can be served on its own or as part of a larger Vietnamese meal.

Ingredients

- 2 cup poached chicken, shredded or thinly sliced
- 2 cup sliced Shrimp
- 3 cup shredded cabbage or lettuce
- 1/2 cup fresh herbs, such as mint and cilantro
- 1/2 cup sliced onions or peppers (optional)
- 2 tbsp fish sauce
- 2 tbsp lime juice
- 1 tbsp sugar
- 1-2 chili peppers, seeded and minced (adjust to taste)
- 1/4 cup chopped peanuts or fried shallots (optional)

Instructions

1. In a large bowl, combine the shredded chicken, shredded cabbage or lettuce, fresh herbs, and sliced onions or peppers (if using).
2. In a small bowl, whisk together the fish sauce, lime juice, sugar, and minced chili peppers to make the dressing.
3. Pour the dressing over the salad and toss to combine.
4. Taste and adjust the seasoning as needed, adding more fish sauce, lime juice, sugar, or chili peppers to taste.
5. Sprinkle the chopped peanuts or fried shallots (if using) over the top of the salad just before serving.
6. Serve the salad immediately as a light meal or as part of a larger Vietnamese meal. Enjoy!

Red Guajillo Salsa

A vibrant and flavorful Mexican salsa made with rehydrated guajillo chilies, tomatoes, garlic, onions, and spices. It offers a slightly smoky and tangy taste with a hint of heat, perfect for adding a burst of flavor to tacos, grilled meats, or as a dipping sauce.

Ingredients

- 6 dried guajillo chillis: washed and soaked in water to rehydrate
- 5 to 6 red roma tomatoes
- 4 thai chilis
- 1-2 jalapeño
- 3 clove garlic
- 1/2 onion
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro
- cumin
- salt
- chicken bouillon, season to taste

Instructions

1. Boil/grill/or seared with oil: guajillo, chili, tomatoes, jalapeños, garlic, onion
2. Blend with cilantro and season to taste. Enjoy!

Refried Bean Dip

A flavorful and creamy dip made primarily with refried beans as the base ingredient. It is often served as an appetizer or party dip and is popular in Mexican cuisine.

Ingredients

- 1 can refried beans
- sour cream
- cream cheese/greek yogurt
- cheese
- green onions
- chopped jalapeno
- corn
- cumin
- salt
- cayenne
- paprika
- oregano
- garlic powder
- onion powder
- parsley powder

Instructions

1. Mix ingredients together, pour into baking tray, top with cheese.
2. Bake 400 for 15 mins.
3. Grab some chips. Enjoy!

Tony's Tuna Sandwich

Made by Tony Nguyen, often created when he is hungry and doesn't require cooking. Good late night snack.

Ingredients

- Sour Wheat Bread (Bought from Costco)
- 1 Can of Tuna
- Kewpie Mayo
- Salt and Pepper
- Sliced Tomatos
- Olive oil
- Lettuce
- Lemon

1. Grab a mixing bowl and toss in the canned tuna.
2. Add Lemon juice, Kewpie Mayo along with salt & pepper, adjust to your liking and mix.
3. Air fry or toast 2 Sour Wheat breads.
4. While the bread is cooking, go ahead and slice your tomatoes.
5. Take your toasted break, add mixed tuna then your sliced tomatoes.
6. Garnish the tomatoes with salt & pepper along with some olive oil.
7. Add some lettuce on top then some more Kewpie mayo.
8. Finish off with the other toasted slice of bread and cut into triagles. Enjoy!

Chicken Alfredo Pasta

A classic Italian dish featuring tender chicken pieces and fettuccine pasta tossed in a creamy Alfredo sauce. This recipe is rich, comforting, and perfect for pasta lovers.

Ingredients

- 1 lb boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut into strips
- 1 lb fettuccine pasta
- 4 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
- Salt and pepper to taste

Instructions

1. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Cook the fettuccine pasta according to the package instructions until al dente. Drain and set aside.
2. In a large skillet, melt the butter over medium heat. Add the chicken strips and minced garlic to the skillet. Cook until the chicken is no longer pink and cooked through.
3. Pour the heavy cream into the skillet with the cooked chicken. Stir in the grated Parmesan cheese and continue to cook, stirring frequently, until the sauce thickens and becomes creamy.
4. Season the sauce with salt and pepper to taste. Add the cooked fettuccine pasta to the skillet and toss to coat the pasta evenly with the sauce.
5. Remove from heat and garnish with chopped fresh parsley.
6. Serve hot. Enjoy!

Vegetable Stir-Fry

A quick and healthy dish packed with colorful vegetables and tossed in a flavorful stir-fry sauce. This recipe is versatile and allows you to customize the vegetables based on your preferences.

Ingredients

- 2 cups mixed vegetables (e.g., bell peppers, broccoli florets, carrots, snap peas)
- 1 cup sliced mushrooms
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 2 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon oyster sauce
- 1 teaspoon cornstarch
- 1/4 cup water
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Optional: sesame seeds and green onions for garnish

Instructions

1. In a small bowl, whisk together the soy sauce, oyster sauce, cornstarch, and water. Set aside.
2. Heat the vegetable oil in a large skillet or wok over medium-high heat.
3. Add the minced garlic to the skillet and cook for about 30 seconds until fragrant.
4. Add the mixed vegetables and sliced mushrooms to the skillet. Stir-fry for 3-5 minutes until the vegetables are crisp-tender.
5. Pour the sauce mixture over the vegetables and stir to coat evenly. Cook for an additional 1-2 minutes until the sauce thickens.
6. Season with salt and pepper to taste.
7. Remove from heat and garnish with sesame seeds and green onions, if desired.
8. Serve hot over steamed rice or noodles.
9. Enjoy your delicious vegetable stir-fry!

Banh Mi

A classic Vietnamese sandwich filled with a combination of savory and flavorful ingredients. It features a crispy baguette filled with marinated meat, pickled vegetables, fresh herbs, and a variety of condiments.

Ingredients

- 1 baguette
- 1/2 pound thinly sliced pork belly or grilled chicken
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon fish sauce
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 cup pickled vegetables (carrots and daikon radish)
- Fresh cilantro leaves
- Fresh mint leaves
- Fresh cucumber slices
- Sliced jalapenos (optional)

Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F (175°C).
2. Slice the baguette lengthwise, leaving one side intact to form a hinge.
3. In a small bowl, combine the mayonnaise, soy sauce, fish sauce, sugar, and garlic powder to make a sauce. Set aside.
4. If using pork belly, cook it in a skillet over medium heat until crispy and cooked through. If using grilled chicken, make sure it's fully cooked and sliced thinly.
5. Spread the sauce mixture on both sides of the baguette.
6. Layer the pork belly or grilled chicken on the bottom half of the baguette.
7. Top with pickled vegetables, fresh cilantro leaves, mint leaves, cucumber slices, and sliced jalapenos (if desired).
8. Close the sandwich and wrap it tightly in aluminum foil.
9. Place the wrapped sandwich in the preheated oven and bake for about 10 minutes to warm and crisp the bread.
10. Remove from the oven and let it cool slightly.
11. Unwrap the sandwich, slice it into smaller portions if desired, and serve.
12. Enjoy your delicious Banh Mi sandwich!

Bun Bo Hue

A spicy and aromatic Vietnamese noodle soup originating from the city of Hue. It features tender beef, pork, and rice noodles in a flavorful broth infused with lemongrass, shrimp paste, and chili oil.

Ingredients

- 1 lb beef shank
- 1 lb pork bones
- 1 lb pork belly or pork shoulder, thinly sliced
- 1 tablespoon shrimp paste
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 2 tablespoons lemongrass, minced
- 1 tablespoon garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon chili oil
- 1 tablespoon fish sauce
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 8 cups beef broth
- Rice noodles (Bun Bo Hue noodles)
- Bean sprouts
- Fresh herbs (Thai basil, cilantro, mint)
- Lime wedges
- Sliced onions
- Sliced chili peppers
- Optional toppings: pig's blood cake, sliced banana blossoms

Instructions

1. In a large pot, bring water to a boil. Add the beef shank and pork bones. Boil for 10 minutes, then drain and rinse the meat.
2. In the same pot, heat the vegetable oil over medium heat. Add the minced lemongrass and garlic. Sauté for a few minutes until fragrant.
3. Add the beef shank, pork bones, and thinly sliced pork belly or pork shoulder to the pot. Stir in the shrimp paste, chili oil, fish sauce, sugar, and paprika.
4. Pour in the beef broth and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low and simmer for 2-3 hours until the meat is tender and the flavors are well combined.
5. While the broth is simmering, prepare the rice noodles according to the package instructions. Drain and set aside.
6. Prepare the toppings by blanching the bean sprouts, washing and plucking the fresh herbs, slicing the onions and chili peppers, and any other optional toppings you desire.
7. Once the broth is ready, remove the meat from the pot and slice it into bite-sized pieces.
8. To serve, place a portion of rice noodles in a bowl. Add the sliced meat on top and ladle the hot broth over the noodles and meat.
9. Garnish with bean sprouts, fresh herbs, sliced onions, sliced chili peppers, and any optional toppings.
10. Serve with lime wedges on the side.
11. Enjoy your flavorful and spicy Bun Bo Hue soup!

Pho Ga

A comforting and fragrant Vietnamese soup made with chicken, rice noodles, and a flavorful broth infused with aromatic spices. Pho Ga is a popular street food in Vietnam and is enjoyed for its delicate flavors and nourishing qualities.

Ingredients

- 1 whole chicken (about 3-4 lbs), giblets removed
- 1 onion, peeled and halved
- 4-inch piece of ginger, sliced
- 4 cloves of garlic, crushed
- 2 cinnamon sticks
- 3 star anise
- 6 cloves
- 1 tablespoon coriander seeds
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 8 cups chicken broth
- 8 oz rice noodles (banh pho)
- Garnishes: bean sprouts, fresh herbs (Thai basil, cilantro, mint), lime wedges, sliced chili peppers

Instructions

1. In a large pot, bring water to a boil. Add the chicken, onion, ginger, garlic, cinnamon sticks, star anise, cloves, coriander seeds, and salt.
2. Reduce the heat to low and simmer for about 1 hour, or until the chicken is cooked through and tender.
3. Remove the chicken from the pot and let it cool slightly. Shred the chicken meat and set aside.
4. Strain the broth through a fine-mesh sieve to remove the solids. Return the broth to the pot and discard the solids.
5. Bring the broth back to a simmer. Taste and adjust the seasoning if needed.
6. Meanwhile, cook the rice noodles according to the package instructions. Drain and rinse with cold water to prevent sticking.
7. Divide the cooked rice noodles among serving bowls. Top with shredded chicken.
8. Ladle the hot broth over the noodles and chicken, ensuring that the noodles are submerged in the broth.
9. Serve the Pho Ga hot with bean sprouts, fresh herbs, lime wedges, and sliced chili peppers on the side.
10. Allow each person to garnish their bowl according to their taste preferences.
11. Enjoy your comforting and delicious Pho Ga!

Nhung's Veggie Dip

Good with raw veggies. Nhung also likes to place it on a cold veggie pizza.

Ingredients

- 2 packs of cream cheese
- 1 cup of american mayo
- 1 packet of Ranch Seasoning – 1 Packet

Instructions

1. Leave your 2 packs of cream cheese out to soften.
2. Once your Cream Cheese is softened place both packs in a bowl.
3. Place your 1 cup of american mayo in the bowl with your cream cheese.
4. Pour in your 1 pack of ranch seasoning.
5. Mix until the dip is homogeneous and the ranch seasoning is dispersed thoroughly.
6. Enjoy the dip with your favorite veggies!