Vegan BBQ Tofu Burger

Yield: 2 burgers

Ingredients

- Two hamburger buns
- Toasted sesame oil for toasting the buns
- ½ cup wild arugula or favorite leafy greens
- Sriracha for garnish
- vegan homemade gochujang mayo
- Asian-style pickled cucumbers

BBQ Tofu

- Oil spray
- one (16-ounce) firm tofu, pressed overnight, slice in half (2 tofu slabs)

BBQ Rub:

- 1 tablespoon dry mustard
- 1 tablespoon onion powder
- 1 tablespoon smoked paprika
- 1½ teaspoon garlic powder
- ½ teaspoon ground cumin
- ½ teaspoon ground pepper

BBQ Sauce

- ¼ cup and 2 tablespoons organic ketchup
- 2 tablespoons finely minced sweet onions
- 2½ tablespoons coconut sugar
- 2 tablespoons seasoned rice vinegar
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- ½ teaspoon Barbecue Rub (see recipe above)
- pinch of ground cayenne
- pinch of ground black pepper

Method

Put all the "BBQ Rub" ingredients (dry mustard, onion powder, smoked paprika, garlic powder, ground cumin and ground pepper) in a small bowl and stir to combine. This is your "BBQ Rub", set it aside.

Put all the "BBQ Sauce" ingredients (ketchup, minced onions, dark brown sugar, seasoned rice vinegar, garlic, BBQ Rub mixture, ground cayenne and ground pepper) in a medium saucepan and stir to combine. Bring to boil over medium-high heat. Decrease the heat to low and simmer uncovered, stirring occasionally, for 15 minutes. Let the sauce cool a bit. Using a hand-held immersion blender, puree the sauce in your cooking pot.

Preheat oven to 350°F. Rub the tofu slabs all over with the remaining "BBQ Rub." Apply a thin layer of oil (or use a non-stick spray) to condition the surface of the pan, when needed. Bake for about 25-30 minutes until slightly browned and flipping both sides halfway.

In a large saucepan at medium heat, warm up the "BBQ Sauce". Quickly coat both sides of tofu and stirringly occasionally until desired temperature is reached (about 5-8 minutes). Do this for both tofu slabs. Drizzle the sauce over the tofu in the end. Optional: You can press the tofu slabs in a panini grill quickly for the creative grill marks.

Toast your hamburger buns onto the griddle pan (at medium-high heat) with toasted sesame oil until slightly golden brown. Spread one of the buns with gochujang mayo. Add the BBQ tofu, greens and a bit of Sriracha. Add whatever filling you like! Serve and enjoy!

Notes

Adapted from 'Grills Gone Vegan' by Tamasin Noyes.

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