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French dip sandwiches

Makes: 6 - 8 sandwiches  
Roast prep: 15 minutes  
Roast time: 1 - 4 hours  
Remaining: 45 minutes

Ingredients
- 4 lb. beef round or sirloin roast
- 2 cups chopped vegetables (onion, carrot, celery, garlic)
- Several sprigs fresh thyme
- ¼ cup red wine
- Salt and pepper

For the au jus
- 1 tsp butter or coconut oil
- 1 tsp flour
- 2 cups beef broth

For the sandwiches
- 1 large onion, sliced
- ½ block provolone cheese (4 oz.), thinly sliced
- Steak rolls, halved, for serving

Instructions

For the roast

1. Preheat the oven to between 200° and 350°. Pat the roast dry and season with salt and pepper. Heat oil in a medium cast-iron skillet or Dutch oven over medium heat.
2. Sear the roast over medium-high heat, several minutes per side, to brown. Set aside and add the root vegetables and thyme, stirring for several minutes to sweat. Add the red wine and place the roast on top.

3. Transfer to the preheated oven and cook for 1 hour at 300°, 1 ½ hours at 250°, 2 hours at 225°, or 4 hours at 180°. Remove from the oven when the internal temperature reaches about 135° for medium-rare, and set the roast aside to rest.

For the au jus

4. Add the beef broth to the Dutch oven and bring the contents to a boil, using a wooden spoon to deglaze the bottom. Reduce heat and simmer to fully soften the vegetables.
5. Strain the liquid, pressing on the solids. Make a light roux from 1 tsp oil and flour and slowly stir in the reserved liquid.

For the sandwiches

6. Sauté the onion with some oil over medium-high heat, stirring occasionally, to soften.
7. Spread or spray oil on the insides of the rolls and toast under the broiler set to low (don’t preheat) for 3 - 4 minutes.
8. Slice the roast thinly. Place the roast beef and cheese on the bottom-halves of the buns, and place under the broiler briefly to melt the cheese. Top with the onions and top-halves of the buns and serve with the au jus, for dipping.

Goes well with roasted vegetables or sweet potato fries.

Notes
Italian calzones

Makes: 4 - 6 servings
(8 calzones)

Prep time: 1 hour
Cook time: 25 minutes

Ingredients

For the dough

☐ 1 (¼ oz.) package active dry yeast
☐ 1 tsp sugar
☐ 1 cup warm water
☐ 2 ½ cups bread or all-purpose flour
☐ 1 tsp salt
☐ 1 Tbs dried oregano

For the filling

☐ 1 lb ground sausage
☐ ½ onion, diced
☐ ½ bell pepper, seeded and diced
☐ 1 tsp each dried basil, dried thyme, and red pepper flakes
☐ ½ block Mozzarella cheese (4 oz.), diced
☐ ½ cup sliced olives
☐ ¾ cup vodka or marinara sauce

Instructions

1. Combine the sugar, yeast, and warm water in a large bowl and rest 10 minutes to bloom. Add the other ingredients for the dough and mix well.

2. Cook the onions, peppers, sausage, and seasoning together in a medium skillet, breaking the sausage apart as it browns until cooked through.

3. Drain the grease and remove from heat. Preheat the oven to 400°.

4. Divide the dough into eighths and roll into thin disks on a lightly floured surface, keeping extra flour handy to prevent sticking.

5. Spread each disk with marinara sauce and divide the sausage mixture among them. Fold the dough around the sausage mixture, pressing flat, and fold or pinch the edges closed.

6. Transfer the calzones to prepared baking pans and use your fingers to spread a light coat of olive oil on the exposed dough. Cook in the preheated oven for 20 - 25 minutes, or until the crust is lightly browned.
Grilled chicken with capers

Makes: 2 servings  
Time: 45 minutes

For the chicken

- 2 chicken breasts, butterflied
- Salt and pepper

1. Rub the chicken with salt and pepper. Add oil to a skillet and place over medium-high heat. Add the chicken and cook for 3 - 4 minutes, or until the edges have turned white, and flip. Cook until the chicken firms to the touch and is cooked through.

For the pasta

- 2 servings* fettuccini or linguini pasta

2. Bring a pot of water to boil and add the pasta. Boil for about 10 minutes or until soft. Drain and rinse to halt cooking, and stir in some olive oil.

For the caper sauce

- 1 shallot, diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 Tbs capers
- 1 cup white wine or chicken stock
- 1 Tbs Dijon mustard
- 1 Tbs dried parsley
- ¼ cup plain Greek yogurt

3. Sauté the shallot and garlic with a little oil to soften. Add the capers and white wine and simmer, uncovered, to reduce by about half.

4. Mix in the mustard and parsley, and season with salt and pepper to taste. Remove from heat and stir in the Greek yogurt.

Notes

*One serving of pasta is about the diameter of a nickel.
**Pumpkin pie soup**  
Makes: 6 - 8 servings  
Time: 1 hour 15 minutes

**Ingredients**
- 2 carnival squash
- 2 cups coconut milk
- 2 cups chicken stock
- 2 shallots, diced
- 2 Tbs maple syrup or honey
- Pinch salt, pepper, cinnamon, nutmeg, and ground cloves

**Instructions**
1. Preheat the oven to 300°. Cut off the top of the squash with the stem and then cut in half. Scrape the insides with a spoon and coat the cut-sides with olive oil. Place flesh-down on a baking pan and roast for 45 minutes, or until soft.
2. Cook the shallot with some oil in a large saucepan until translucent and reduce the heat. Add the coconut milk, chicken stock, maple syrup or honey, and spices.
3. Scoop out the squash flesh and add to the saucepan. Use an immersion blender to puree the soup. Heat through and serve with a sprinkle of nutmeg.

**Curried butternut squash soup**  
Makes: 4 - 6 servings  
Time: 45 minutes

**Ingredients**
- 1 butternut squash, peeled, seeded, and chopped
- 1 apple, cored and chopped
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2 cups coconut milk
- 1 Tbs curry powder
- 1 tsp mild chili powder
- ½ tsp ground black pepper

**Instructions**
1. Place a medium saucepan or Dutch oven with some oil over medium heat. Add the onions, garlic, apple, and spices and cook to soften, about 5 minutes.
2. Add the squash and coconut milk and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat, cover, and simmer for 20 - 30 minutes to soften the squash.
3. Puree the soup with an immersion blender. Serve with a splash of heavy cream for garnish.

**Notes**
Divide the leftover soup into containers and freeze for up to 3 months.