Thanksgiving Menu

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Appetizer Lentil Dip

Properly soaking lentils and sunflower seeds will result in improved digestion.

Ingredients:

1 cup of red lentils, soaked overnight in filtered water
 3 cups water
 5 tablespoons of pumpkin puree
 1/4 cup roasted red pepper
 3 tablespoons lemon juice
 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
 2 tablespoons sunflower seeds (soaked overnight)
 1/2 teaspoon sea salt

Directions:

Add the lentils and water to a medium saucepan and bring to a rolling boil over medium high heat. Then reduce heat to a mild simmer. Cook for 15-20 minutes, or until most liquid is absorbed and the lentils are tender, then rinse and drain lentils.

Combine all of the ingredients in a large food processor, such as a Vitamix.

Serve with carrots, crudités or gluten-free crackers.



First Course

Pumpkin Carrot Curry Soup

This is a perfect fall comfort soup that uses seasonal vegetables rich in beta-carotene and an anti-inflammatory base of coconut oil, spices and homemade broth. I like to make broth ahead of time and freeze it to later add to various recipes.

Ingredients:

- 1 pound of steamed carrots
- 1/2 cup pumpkin puree (organic canned or boxed). May use butternut squash instead.
- 1/2 teaspoon curry
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt
- 2 tablespoons coconut oil
- 1 cup gluten-free chicken broth (homemade or store bought)

Directions:

Steam carrots.

Add carrots, pumpkin puree, curry, salt, coconut oil and broth to Vitamix.

Mix for 30 seconds on low-med-high.



Main Course

Salt and Herb Rubbed Turkey

(Adapted from Living Without)

For a moist and tender bird with crispy brown skin, apply this rub a day in advance. The rub will be rinsed off before baking, so don't worry about it becoming too salty.

Ingredients:

1 unfrozen turkey (I prefer free range)

2 cups gluten-free broth or pear juice

- 1 tablespoon fresh rosemary, chopped
- 11/2 tablespoons fresh sage, chopped
- 2 tablespoons fresh thyme
- 1/3 cup sea salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper

Directions:

Mix rosemary, sage, thyme, salt and pepper in a small bowl.

Rub salt mixture on the inside cavities and outside the turkey.

Refrigerate for 8 – 24 hours.

The following day, after preheating the oven to 450 degrees F, rinse the turkey to remove salt.

Rub and transfer to roasting pan.

Add broth/pear juice to roasting pan.

Roast uncovered for 30 minutes at 450 degrees F, then remove from oven and lower to 325 degrees F.

Tent turkey with foil and return to oven.

Baste turkey every 45 minutes and bake according to roasting guide per weight: http://www.fosterfarms.com/cooking/turkey/roasting_turkey.asp

Remove foil cover 30 minutes prior to end time.

Remove turkey from oven when internal temperature reaches 165 degrees F.

Replace foil tent and let sit for 30 minutes.

Cranberry Orange Sauce

Ingredients:

1 bag of cranberries
 2 cups of orange juice
 1/3 cup of honey
 1 teaspoon gluten-free vanilla extract
 1 tablespoon cinnamon

Directions:

Place all ingredients in a small saucepan and turn the heat to medium-high. Allow to boil and watch as the cranberries start to pop. Mix.

Cooking time should take 10 - 15 minutes.



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Sweet Potato Casserole

Ingredients:

Potato Mixture
3 cups of sweet potatoes
1/2 cup coconut oil
3 eggs beaten
1 teaspoon gluten-free vanilla extract
1 tablespoon pumpkin pie spice
1/2 cup thick coconut cream

Topping 1/2 cup grated coconut 1/2 cup chopped pecans 1/3 cup melted coconut oil

Directions:

Mash the sweet potatoes and mix in the other mixture ingredients. Bake at 350 degrees F for 40 minutes. Sprinkle with topping and bake for 10 more minutes.



Broccoli Bacon Veggies

Ingredients:

2 heads of broccoli, cut into single florets
6 cups of mushrooms, chopped
1 bag of green beans or 1 bunch of asparagus, cut into 2-3 inch pieces
1 onion, chopped
1 pack of bacon, cut into small pieces

Directions:

Heat the bacon and onions in a large wok.

Add mushrooms, the broccoli, and green beans/asparagus and cover until steamed through.



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Root Veggie Bake

Make this a day ahead. Refrigerate and reheat in the oven after you take out the turkey.

Ingredients:

5 - 6 cups of root veggies, diced (parsnips, turnips, sweet potatoes, daikon radish, beets, black radish, and carrots are some options)

- 1 diced apple (optional)
- 1/4 cup of olive oil, duck fat, ghee or your oil of choice
- 1/2 teaspoon thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon basil
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt

Optional drizzle

1 tablespoon honey, agave, or maple syrup

2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil

Directions:

Mix all ingredients, place into a Dutch oven or a baking dish with a cover, and bake at 350 degrees F for 2 hours.



Pumpkin Pie

Ingredients:

1 can of pumpkin puree (15 oz.)
1/2 cup of agave or honey or pureed dates
3 eggs
1 1/4 cup coconut milk
2 tablespoons pumpkin pie spice
1/4 teaspoon sea salt
1 gluten-free ready-made pie crust, or prebake a gluten-free pie crust mix

Directions:

Mix all ingredients and add into baking pan. Pour into ready-made/pre-prepared pie crust and bake at 350 degrees F for one hour.



Apple Blueberry Pie

Ingredients:

Crust

2+1 cups almond flour (I buy it at Trader Joe's) or coconut flour

1/2 cup of melted coconut oil (at Trader Joe's)

4 tablespoons of honey

1 teaspoon gluten-free vanilla extract

Filling

1, 26 oz. jar of baked apple chunks and slices (I buy Grandma Hoerners at Costco) 1 cup blueberries

Directions:

Mix 2 cups of almond/coconut flour, the coconut oil, honey and vanilla in a mixer.

Use 75% of the almond/coconut flour mixture to fill out a round pie pan, reserve 25% for the crumble top.

Add filling into the pie crust.

Add remaining cup of almond/coconut flour into the reserved crust mixture, and mix until a crumble-like consistency is formed.

Sprinkle crumble on top of fruit filling.

Preheat oven for 350 degrees F.

Bake for 30 - 45 minutes.



Baked Pears

Ingredients:

- 4 pears, peeled and cut in half lengthwise
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon gluten-free vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 1 tablespoon coconut oil

Directions:

Place pears into a baking dish, add water and sprinkle with cinnamon, and drizzle with vanilla, honey and coconut oil.

Bake at 350 degrees F for 45 minutes.



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Pumpkin Custard

Ingredients:

1 1/2 cups of coconut milk (full, not lite)
1 cup pumpkin puree
3 large eggs
1 teaspoon gluten-free vanilla extract
1/2 cup maple syrup, agave syrup or honey
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
1/4 teaspoon sea salt

Directions:

Mix all ingredients. Oil the outsides of a 6-muffin pan. Pour mixture into each compartment. Bake 350 degrees F for 50 minutes.



Shopping List

Meats/Dairy

- □ Turkey
- □ Bacon
- □ Eggs
- □ Ghee/duck fat

Accessories

- □ Aluminum foil
- Baking pan large enough to fit turkey
- □ Wok
- □ Sauce pan
- □ Muffin pan
- □ Casserole (2)
- □ Pie pan (3)

Fruit

- Pear juice or gluten-free chicken stock
- □ Lemon juice
- □ Cranberries
- Blueberries/
 Blackberries
- □ Pears
- □ Apples
- □ Orange juice

Vegetables

- □ 1 lb. of steamed carrots
- 1 cup of red lentils, soaked overnight in filtered water
- □ 1/4 cup roasted red pepper
- 5 6 cups of root veggies (parsnips, turnips, sweet potatoes, daikon radish, beets, black radish, carrots are some options)
- 2 heads of broccoli, cut into single florets
- □ 6 cups of mushrooms, chopped
- 1 bag of green beans or 1 bunch of asparagus,
- □ 1 onion, chopped
- 3 cups of sweet potatoes
- □ Extra virgin olive oil

Herbs

- 1 tablespoon fresh rosemary, chopped
- □ 11/2 tablespoons fresh sage, chopped
- 2 tablespoons fresh thyme
- □ 1/2 teaspoon thyme
- □ 1/2 teaspoon basil

Spices

- Sea salt
- □ Pepper
- □ Gluten-free vanilla extract
- □ Pumpkin pie spice
- □ Ground ginger
- □ Ground cinnamon
- □ Curry

Nuts/Seeds

- □ 1/2 cup grated coconut
- \Box 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- □ Almond/cashew or other nut flour
- □ Sunflower seeds
- □ Coconut oil
- □ Coconut flour
- □ 4 tablespoons of honey

Jars/Cans

- (1) 26 oz. jar of baked apple chunks and slices (I buy Grandma Hoerners at Costco)
- □ 3 cans of coconut milk (full, not lite)
- 4 cans/boxes of pumpkin puree (organic canned or boxed). May use butternut squash instead
- 1 cup gluten-free chicken broth (homemade or store bought)

□ Honey

Root Cause Thanksgiving Menu

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Inspirations:

http://www.livingwithout.com/issues/3_6/Allergy-Free-Holiday-Cooking-Recipes-1324-1.html http://www.livingwithout.com/issues/4_10/gluten_free_dairy_free_thanksgiving-2185-1.html http://www.livingwithout.com/issues/4_16/gluten_free_thanksgiving_feast-2641-1.html



Wishing you and your family a

Happy Holiday Season!

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