Chipotle Chicken Tamales

by Jamie @ Love Bakes Good Cakes

Prep Time: 1 hour
Cook Time: 3 hours
Yield: about 60 tamales

Ingredients

About 65 dried corn husks

For the masa:

- 7 cups instant corn masa
- 1¼ cups lard or shortening
- 1 tsp. adobo sauce (from 7 oz. can LA MORENA Chipotle Peppers in Adobo)
- 1 tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. baking powder
- 6-7 cups chicken broth

For the filling:

- 1 small onion, cut into wedges
- 2 chipotle peppers in adobo sauce (from 7 oz can of LA MORENA Chipotle Peppers in Adobo)
- 2 cloves garlic, finely minced
- 2½ cups chicken broth
- 1 can (14.5 oz) fire roasted diced tomatoes, drained
- 1/4 cup tomato sauce
- 2 tsp. chicken bouillon granules
- ½ tsp. dried oregano leaves
- ¼ tsp. salt
- 4 cups shredded cooked chicken breast

Instructions

- 1. Pull ¼-inch strings from 4 or 5 of the corn husks to wrap tamales; set aside.
- 2. In a large pot or bowl, cover corn husks (including pulled strings) with warm water and let stand until pliable, at least one hour. You may need to place a plate or similar object on top to keep them submerged.
- 3. Meanwhile, in the bowl of an electric mixer, combine all tamale dough ingredients, starting with 6 cups broth. Beat with electric mixer until well combined, adding chicken broth as needed (if necessary) to make a soft dough.

In blender, place all filling ingredients except chicken. Cover; blend until smooth.

- 4. In 3-quart saucepan, add about two-thirds of the tomato mixture from the blender. Cook about 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, until hot. Stir in chicken; cook over medium-low heat about 15 minutes, stirring occasionally, until mixture thickens and the liquid is reduced.
- 5. Drain corn husks; pat dry with paper towels. Working one at a time, place a corn husk on work surface. Place about 3 tablespoons of tamale dough on larger end of husk and spread into a rectangle approximately 1/4 inch thick, leaving a 1-inch border around edges of husk. Place a heaping tablespoon of filling in a line down center of dough. Fold over sides of husk so dough surrounds filling, then fold bottom of husk up and secure closed by tying a thin strip pulled from another husk around tamale. Repeat with remaining husks, dough, and filling.
- 6. Fill a large pot with water to 1-inch below steamer insert. Rest tamales upright in a steamer insert or on rack above the water level. Cover and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium-low and allow to steam until dough is cooked through and pulls away easily from the husk, about 1 hour. Add more water, if necessary. Remove tamales from steamer and let rest until dough firms up, about 15 minutes.
- 7. About 20 minutes before serving, heat up the remaining tomato sauce over medium-low heat, stirring occasionally.
- 8. Carefully unfold each tamale by removing string and opening husk. Spoon reserved sauce over each tamale, if desired.
- ** **NOTE:** Store tamales in refrigerator for up to a week or freeze for up to four months. Defrost and reheat tamales in steamer until warmed through or in microwave on high for 2 minutes.