

Chef ETL's Smoked Chicken Wings in Orange Brine

Servings: 6

Preparation Time: 15 minutes

Start to Finish Time: 5 hours 10 minutes

The orange brine plumps up the wings with moisture that gushes with each bite. The wings pick up the brines orange flavor with a hint of spice from the rosemary and bay leaf. The rub adds the rest of the flavor with sweetness and "heat".

ORANGE BRINE:

4 cups water

1 12-ounce can frozen orange juice concentrate

3/4 cup kosher salt

1/2 cup brown sugar, packed

2 sprigs fresh rosemary

2 tablespoons whole black peppercorns

2 each bay leaf

2 cloves garlic, smashed

4 cups ice cubes

CHICKEN WINGS:

4 pounds chicken wings

1/2 cup Slap yo Daddy Chicken BBQ rub (or any other rub for chicken)

1 cup apple juice (in spray bottle)

1/4 cup Sweet baby Ray's Barbecue Sauce (optional)

THESE ARE THE HOME-RUN OF CHICKEN WINGS! A medley of spices. NO need for ANY BBQ sauce (but you can add if you want yet another dimension of flavor)!

BRINE (35 minutes + 2 hours or overnight to marinate):

Heat water, orange juice concentrate, salt, brown sugar, 2 sprigs rosemary, peppercorns, bay leaves and garlic in a large pot over medium heat to a boil.

Cover pot and remove from heat; let cool for 20 minutes.

Stir in ice until melted.

Submerge chicken wings in brine pot and cover. Refrigerate at least 2 hours or up to overnight.

SMOKE (2 hours + 35 minutes)

Pre-Heat smoker to 240 degrees.

Remove wings from brine and rinse in cold water.

Pat wings dry with paper towels.

Liberaly cover both sided of wings with Slap Yo Daddy BBQ Chicken Rub (or any other rub for chicken).

Place wings in a single layer on a the smoker rack/s and smoke for 2 hours or until the internal meat temperature reaches 165 degrees.

OPTIONAL: Place smoke wings in a large bowl and coat with a small amount of BBQ sauce.

Let wings rest for 10 minutes.

Per Serving (excluding unknown items): 765 Calories; 39g Fat (46.5% calories from fat); 54g Protein; 47g Carbohydrate; 1g Dietary Fiber; 336mg Cholesterol; 14292mg Sodium; 42g Total Sugars; trace Vitamin D; 317mg Calcium; 2mg Iron; 967mg Potassium; 450mg Phosphorus. Exchanges: .