Whole Health Institute



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Mediterranean Stuffed Zucchini Boats

Prep time: 10-15 minutes **Cook time:** 30 minutes **Total time:** 40 minutes

Serves: 6

Ingredients

Roasted tomatoes

- o 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- o 1 (10-ounce) container cherry tomatoes
- o 2 cloves garlic, minced
- o 1/4 teaspoon salt

Zucchini boats

- o 3 medium zucchinis, cut in half lengthwise
- o 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- o ¼ teaspoon salt

Filling

- o 1-2 tablespoons avocado oil
- o 1 small yellow onion, diced
- o 1 pound ground chicken, turkey, or >90% lean beef
- o 3-4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 teaspoons Italian seasoning
- o ½ cup Panko breadcrumbs
- o ½ cup grated parmesan cheese
- Salt and pepper
- Fresh basil or parsley

Instructions

- 1. Preheat oven to 400°F. Toss cherry tomatoes and garlic with olive oil and salt and spread out evenly on a small sheet pan. Roast for 15-20 minutes.
- 2. Use a small spoon to hollow out the seeds of the halved zucchinis to make them into a boat-like shape. Only scrape out enough to ensure you're left with at least 1/2-inch-thick walls so the zucchini can still hold its shape. Rub zucchini with olive oil then place on a medium baking sheet or ovenproof dish, hollowed side face down. Sprinkle with salt and bake for 10 minutes.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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- 3. While zucchini is baking, heat oil in a large pan over medium heat and sauté onion for 2-3 minutes until it begins to soften. Add ground chicken, turkey, or beef, garlic, and Italian seasoning. Cook for 5-7 minutes until meat is nearly cooked through. Turn off heat and stir in breadcrumbs and parmesan until well combined. Gently fold in roasted tomatoes and their juices.
- 4. Remove zucchini from the oven and fill each boat with ground meat and tomato mixture. Place back in the oven and bake for another 10 minutes.
- 5. Sprinkle with chopped basil or parsley and serve.