Barbacoa Lamb & Beef Tacos with Roasted Honeynut Squash & Brussels Sprouts Tonight's tacos capture the exciting flavors of barbacoa, a Mexican preparation of lamb or beef (traditionally slow-cooked in a pit in the ground) beloved for its delicious seasonings. Our smoky, earthy and zesty blend-including paprika, cumin and cayenne-perfectly complements the richness of ground lamb and beef. On the side, we're topping roasted Brussels sprouts and petite honeynut squash with quickpickled onion for a delightfully tangy finish. (Feel free to use some of the onion as extra garnish for your tacos!) Blue Apron Wine Pairings Shannon Ridge Zinfandel, 2015 Almez Monastrell, 2013



Ingredients

- 11/8 Pounds Ground Lamb & Beef Blend
- 8 Flour Tortillas
- 4 Ounces Brussels Sprouts
- 2 Honeynut Squash
- 2 Limes
- 1 Avocado
- 1 Red Onion
- 1 Bunch Cilantro

Knick Knacks

- 2 Tablespoons Tomato Paste
- 11/2 Tablespoons Sugar
- 1 Tablespoon Barbacoa Spice Blend

(Ground Cumin, Smoked Paprika, Garlic Powder, Onion Powder, Cayenne Pepper, Ground Coriander & Ground Cinnamon)

Makes: 4 servings

Prep Time: 15 minutes | Cook Time: 35–45 minutes



Prepare the ingredients:

Preheat the oven to 450°F. Wash and dry the fresh produce. Cut off and discard the squash ends. Using a knife, peel and halve the squash; scoop out and discard the pulp and seeds. Cut the squash into ¼-inch-thick pieces. Cut off and discard the stem ends of the Brussels sprouts; halve lengthwise. Quarter the limes. Peel and halve the onion. Small dice 1 half; place in a bowl with **the juice of 2 lime wedges**. Thinly slice the remaining half. Pit, peel and thinly slice the avocado; place in a bowl with **the juice of 2 lime wedges** and season with salt. Finely chop the cilantro leaves and stems.



Roast the vegetables:

Place the **squash** and **Brussels sprouts** on a sheet pan. Drizzle with olive oil and season with salt and pepper; toss to thoroughly coat. Arrange in a single, even layer and roast, turning halfway through, 20 to 22 minutes, or until browned and tender when pierced with a fork. Remove from the oven and transfer to a serving dish, leaving the oven on. Set aside in a warm place.



Pickle the onion:

While the vegetables roast, in a large pan (nonstick, if you have one), combine the **sliced onion**, **sugar**, **the juice of the remaining lime wedges** and ¼ **cup of water**; season with salt and pepper. Heat to boiling on high. Cook, stirring occasionally, 1 to 2 minutes, or until the onion has softened and the liquid is slightly reduced in volume. Transfer to a heatproof bowl. Let cool, stirring occasionally, for at least 10 minutes. Season with salt and pepper to taste.



Start the filling:

While the onion cools, rinse and wipe out the pan. In the same pan, heat 2 teaspoons of olive oil on medium-high until hot. Add the **diced onion**. Cook, stirring occasionally, 2 to 3 minutes, or until softened. Add the **ground lamb and beef**; season with salt and pepper. Cook, frequently breaking the meat apart with a spoon, 8 to 10 minutes, or until lightly browned and cooked through.



Finish the filling:

To the pan, add the **tomato paste** and **as much of the spice blend as you'd like**, depending on how spicy you'd like the dish to be. Cook, stirring frequently, 1 to 2 minutes, or until the tomato paste is dark red and fragrant. Add ³/₄ **cup of water**. Cook, stirring occasionally, 3 to 5 minutes, or until thickened and saucy. Remove from heat and season with salt and pepper to taste. Set aside in a warm place.



Warm the tortillas & serve your dish:

Stack the **tortillas** on a large piece of foil; tightly wrap. Carefully place directly onto the oven rack and warm 6 to 8 minutes, or until heated through. Remove from the oven and carefully unwrap; transfer to a serving dish. Divide the **finished filling** and **avocado** between the warmed tortillas. Top the **roasted vegetables** with the **pickled onion** (reserving the pickling liquid). Garnish the tacos with a drizzle of the **reserved pickling liquid** and the **cilantro**. Enjoy!