Pork Meatballs

with Cylindra Beet & Cranberry Agrodolce

In this recipe, we're braising hearty pork meatballs with a gorgeous agrodolce—a sauce whose name comes from the Italian for "sweet and sour." Ours features tangy fresh cranberries and hearty cylindra beet (a uniquely-shaped variety), cooked with a bit of sugar, vinegar and mustard seeds to bring out their sweet, tangy and earthy flavors. We're serving it all on a bed of farro and tender baby kale, which deliciously soaks up the colorful sauce.

Blue Apron Wine Pairings

Shannon Ridge Zinfandel, 2015 Hilliard Bruce Pinot Noir, 2013





Ingredients

10 Ounces Ground Pork

3/3 Cup Semi-Pearled Farro

- 2 Ounces Baby Kale
- 1 Cylindra Beet
- 1 Ounce Fresh Cranberries
- 1 Bunch Chives

Knick Knacks

- 2 Tablespoons Crème Fraîche
- 2 Tablespoons Red Wine Vinegar
- 11/2 Teaspoons Brown Mustard Seeds
- 1 Shallot
- 1 Tablespoon Sugar
- 2 Teaspoons Pork Meatballs Spice Blend (Onion Powder, Garlic Powder, Smoked Paprika, Ground Coriander & Ground Thyme)

Makes: 2 servings

Prep Time: 10 minutes | Cook Time: 25–35 minutes





Prepare the ingredients:

Wash and dry the fresh produce. Heat a large pot of salted water to boiling on high. Peel and mince the shallot. Thinly slice the chives. Line your cutting board with paper towels; peel and small dice the beet.



Cook & chop the kale:

While the farro cooks, in a medium pan (nonstick, if you have one), heat 2 teaspoons of olive oil on medium-high until hot. Add half the shallot and season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, 30 seconds to 1 minute, or until fragrant. Add the kale and season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, 1 to 2 minutes, or until wilted. Transfer to a cutting board; when cool enough to handle, finely chop. Rinse and wipe out the pan.



Make the agrodolce:

While the farro continues to cook, add the **cranberries**, **beet** and **remaining shallot** to the pan of reserved fond; season with salt and pepper. (If the pan seems dry, add a drizzle of olive oil.) Cook on medium-high, stirring occasionally, 2 to 3 minutes, or until softened and fragrant. Add the **sugar**, **mustard seeds**, 34 **of the vinegar** and 1/2 **cup water**; season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, 4 to 5 minutes, or until the meatballs are thoroughly coated and cooked through. Turn off the heat and season with salt and pepper to taste.



Cook the farro:

Add the **farro** to the pot of boiling water. Cook, uncovered, 16 to 18 minutes, or until tender. Turn off the heat. Drain thoroughly and return to the pot.



Form & brown the meatballs:

While the farro continues to cook, in a large bowl, combine the **ground pork** (removing and discarding the paper lining from the bottom) and **spice blend**; season with salt and pepper. Gently mix until just combined. Using your hands, form the mixture into 10 to 12 equal-sized meatballs. In the same pan, heat 2 teaspoons of olive oil on medium-high until hot. Add the meatballs and cook, turning occasionally, 3 to 4 minutes, or until browned on all sides. Transfer to a paper towel-lined plate, leaving any browned bits (or fond) in the pan.



Finish the farro & plate your dish:

Add the **chopped kale**, **crème fraîche** and **remaining vinegar** to the pot of **cooked farro**. Stir to thoroughly combine; season with salt and pepper to taste. Divide the finished farro and **cooked meatballs** between 2 dishes. Top with the **agrodolce** and a drizzle of olive oil. Garnish with the **chives**. Enjoy!