Meatballs & Harissa Tomato Sauce

with Green Beans & Orzo Pasta

(1) 35-45 MINS

4 SERVINGS

We're elevating these savory meatballs by loading ours with deliciously melty cheese curds, then cooking them in a lightly spiced tomato sauce for rich, bright flavor in every bite. It's all brought together over warm orzo pasta and green beans finished with a touch of crème fraîche.



MATCH YOUR BLUE APRON WINE



Fruity & Savory

Serve a bottle with this symbol for a great pairing.



Ingredients



1 1/8 lbs GROUND BEEF



1 15-oz can CRUSHED TOMATOES



¹∕2 lb ORZO PASTA



CHEDDAR CHEESE CURDS



1/4 cup PANKO BREADCRUMBS



2 Tbsps CRÈME FRAÎCHE



1 Tbsp RED HARISSA PASTE



6 oz GREEN BEANS



1 ZUCCHINI



2 cloves GARLIC



2 oz SLICED ROASTED RED PEPPERS



3 Tbsps GOLDEN RAISINS



1 Tbsp SMOKY SPICE BLEND*

^{*}Smoked Paprika, Sweet Paprika, Ground Yellow Mustard, Garlic Powder & Onion Powder













**An instant-read thermometer should register 160°F.

1 Prepare the ingredients & make the harissa tomato sauce:

- Fill a medium pot 3/4 of the way up with salted water; cover and heat to boiling on high.
- Wash and dry the fresh produce.
- Finely chop the cheese curds.
- Medium dice the zucchini.
- Peel and roughly chop 2 cloves of garlic.
- Combine the diced zucchini and chopped garlic in a bowl.
- Cut off and discard the stem ends of the **green beans**; cut into 1-inch pieces.
- Roughly chop the **peppers**.
- In a bowl, combine the tomatoes, harissa paste, a big pinch of salt, and 1/4 cup of water.

2 Form the meatballs:

- ☐ In a large bowl, combine the **beef**, **chopped cheese curds**, **breadcrumbs**, and **spice blend**; season with salt and pepper. Gently mix to combine.
- ☐ Shape the mixture into 12 tightly packed meatballs. Transfer to a plate.

3 Brown the meatballs & zucchini:

- ☐ In a large pan (nonstick, if you have one), heat a drizzle of **olive oil** on medium-high until hot.
- Add the **meatballs**. Cook, turning occasionally, 5 to 6 minutes, or until browned on all sides.
- Add the **prepared zucchini and garlic**; season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, 2 to 3 minutes, or until the zucchini is softened.

4 Cook & finish the pasta:

- Meanwhile, add the **pasta** to the pot of boiling water and cook 5 minutes.
- Add the **green bean pieces** and continue to cook 2 to 4 minutes, or until tender.
- Turn off the heat. Drain thoroughly and return to the pot. Add the **crème fraîche**, **raisins**, and **chopped peppers**; stir to combine. Taste, then season with salt and pepper if desired. Cover to keep warm.

5 Finish the meatballs & serve your dish:

- Add the harissa tomato sauce (carefully, as the liquid may splatter) to the pan of browned meatballs and zucchini. Cook, stirring occasionally and spooning the sauce over the meatballs, 4 to 5 minutes, or until the liquid is slightly reduced in volume and the meatballs are cooked through.**
- ☐ Turn off the heat. Taste, then season with salt and pepper if desired.
- Serve the finished meatballs and sauce over the finished pasta. Enjoy!

