

Chorizo Queso Fundido with Roasted Salsa Verde

1 teaspoon olive oil

1/2 pound fresh chorizo

1 small onion, finely diced

1/2 jalapeno, finely diced

1 clove garlic, minced

1 tablespoon Mexican spice mix

1 cup diced canned tomatoes, with juice

1/2 cup diced green chiles

2 cups grated cheese

1/2 cup Velveeta cheese, cubed

Roasted Salsa Verde

Tortilla Chips

- Bring a oven-proof skillet to medium heat and add the oil.
- Cook the chorizo, breaking up with spoon, until browned.
- Add the onions; cook until softened. Stir in the garlic and spices; cook 1 minute more.
- Stir in the tomatoes and chiles; simmer until flavors combine, about 2 minutes.
- Add the bechamel; stir until combined and warm. Fold in cheese; stirring until melted.
- Serve with chips; garnish with salsa.

Southwestern Salad with Creamy Ranch Dressing

1/4 cup white balsamic vinegar

1/4 cup mayonnaise

Juice and zest of 1 blood orange

1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce

1 shallot, chopped

2 cloves garlic, chopped

1 teaspoon each onion and garlic powder

½ teaspoon anchovy paste

½ cup olive oil

2 tablespoons grated cotijo cheese

Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

1 head romaine, chopped ½ cup julienned jicama

1/2 cup halved cherry tomatoes 1 small roasted pepper, diced

1 small piece cumber, diced

1/2 small red onion, thinly sliced

Croutons

- Add first eight ingredients to jar of a blender; puree until smooth. Season with salt and pepper.
- With machine running, slowly add olive oil. Stir in cheese; adjust seasoning.
- Add salad ingredients to bowl. Toss with dressing to taste (reserve remaining).



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Tender Short Rib, Charred Corn and Spicy Jack Cheese Tacos with Red Chile Sauce

2 dried Pasilla chilies, stemmed and seeded

2 tablespoons olive oil, divided

2 pounds boneless short ribs

2 tablespoons Mexican spice mix

1 large onion, diced

1 large poblano pepper, diced

4 whole cloves garlic

1 cup lager beer

1 cup rich beef stock

1 cup plum tomatoes

Sea salt and freshly ground pepper

12 corn or flour tortillas

1/4 cup crumbled queso fresco

2 tablespoons minced red onion

2 tablespoons minced cilantro

- Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Bring a heavy Dutch oven to medium heat. Toast chilies in dry pan until fragrant; remove and set aside.
- Add 1 tablespoon olive oil. Season beef with half of spice mix. Cook, turning occasionally, until nicely browned. Remove from pan.
- Add remaining oil; cook onions and peppers, stirring occasionally, until nicely browned. Add garlic; cook 1
 minute more.
- Add beer; cook until reduced by half. Add stock, tomatoes and reserved chilies and beef; bring to a simmer. Transfer to oven. Cook, covered, until beef is tender, about 2½ hours.
- Remove from oven. Transfer meat to cutting board; let rest. Stain fat from surface of sauce; discard. Puree sauce; season with salt and pepper.
- Fill tortillas with beef; top with cheese, cilantro, onions and sauce.

Mexican Spice Mix

- 3 tablespoons sea salt
- 2 tablespoons onion powder
- 2 tablespoons garlic powder
- 2 tablespoons smoked paprika
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 tablespoon dried oregano
- 1 tablespoon ground coriander

½ tablespoon dried thyme

1 teaspoon freshly cracked black pepper

1 teaspoon ground cumin

½ teaspoon ground cinnamon

• Stir together; transfer to an airtight container.



Classic Margarita

El Mayor Reposado Tequila

Margarita Mix

1/2 cup water

1/2 cup sugar

1/2 cup lime juice

1 cup good quality reposado tequila ¹/₄ cup good quality orange liqueur Lime wedges

- Add water and sugar to a saucepan. Bring to a simmer; cook until sugar is dissolved. Let cool; add juice.
- Add tequila, orange liqueur and 1 cup of margarita mix (reserve remaining) to a cocktail shaker.
- Add ice; shake until chilled; pour in cocktail glasses; garnish with lime wedges

Pomegranate Paloma

Hornitos Blanco Tequila

1 cup silver tequila 1 cup grapefruit juice 1 cup pomegranate juice ½ cup margarita mix Fresh lime juice, to taste Agave, to taste Splash of seltzer, optional Lemon wedges

- In a pitcher, mix together the tequila, grapefruit, pomegranate, margarita mix and lime juice.
- Add agave, to taste.
- Serve in prepared glasses over ice. Garnish with lemon slices.

Note: If you like a little spice in your drink, muddle a couple of slices of jalapeno in each glass before adding to glass.

Pineapple Orange Margaritas

Jose Cuervo 1800 Tequila

1 cup silver tequila 1 cup fresh orange juice 1 cup pineapple juice ½ cup margarita mix Lime juice, to taste Agave, to taste Orange wedges

- In a pitcher, mix together the tequila, orange, pineapple and margarita mix.
- Add lime juice and agave to taste.
- Serve in prepared glasses over ice. Garnish with orange wedges.