BLACK EYED JAMBALAYA



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Serves: 4-6 Prep Time: 30 min Cook time: 45 min

INGREDIENTS:

2 cups of dried or fresh black eyed peas (16 oz bag of dried)

4 cups of low sodium chicken broth

2 cups of red-green-yellow bell pepper chopped

2 cups or 16 oz of Cajun Sausage, sliced into 1 1/2 inch rounds (May use spicy Kielbasa for substitute)

1/2 lb of thick cut bacon

1 tbsp of salt

3 tbsp of Cajun seasoning

6 sprigs of saffron

1 tbsp of Gumbo File

1 bay leaf

1 medium white onion quartered and halved into eight pieces

1 cup of chopped scallions

3 tbsp of powered garlic or 4 cloves peeled and crushed

2 cups of grape tomatoes

1 cup of jalapeño peppers sliced thin

2 cups of long grain rice



DIRECTIONS:

- 1. Soak dried peas in a bowl of water for 1 hour or until somewhat tender. (Fresh peas do not need soaking.) Drain peas and put in pot and pour in chicken broth.
- 2. Add your sausage, bell peppers, bacon, onion, garlic, salt, Cajun seasoning, saffron, and Gumbo File to make a Jambalaya mixture.
- 3. Add your rice in a separate pot with water and cook until tender and fluffy.
- 4. Bring Jambalaya mixture to a soft boil for 5 min and reduce heat to a medium simmer for 35 min or until peas are fully soft. Lightly stir with a wooden spoon to prevent sticking or burning every 5 min or so. Cook down liquid if too much water remains. Remove bay leaf.
- 5. Slice grape tomatoes and jalapeños and set aside for later. Once rice is cooked and fluffy, take about a 1/2 cup and make into a ball or press rice into a 1/2 cup measure and place in center of plate or shallow bowl. Spoon Jambalaya around the rice.
- 6. Garnish with jalapenos and sliced grape tomatoes.
- 7. Add extra Cajun seasoning for taste or with your favorite hot sauce. Serve with fresh bread.