

201 WIMBERLEY SQUARE | WIMBERLEY, TEXAS 78676 | 512.847.1553

<u>Keftedes (Greek Meatballs)</u> with Tzatziki Sauce (Cucumber Yogurt Sauce)

Makes about 50 meatballs

These Greek-style meatballs are tender, juicy, and full of fabulous flavors! Pair these meatballs with fresh, dilly Tzatziki sauce (recipe below). Serve the hot meatballs with a side dip of Tzatziki sauce and a side salad. Or, place a few meatballs in a pita pocket, add fresh greens, and generously drizzle with Tzatziki sauce. Alternatively, an orzo pilaf would also be a great complement to these meatballs with Tzatziki sauce.

Ingredients:

- 1 onion, minced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 slices of dry, white bread, crusts removed, soaked in 1/2 cup milk, with excess milk squeezed out
- 1 lb ground beef
- 1 lb ground lamb
- 2 tablespoon fresh parsley, minced
- 2 tablespoon fresh mint, minced
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano leaves
- 1 large egg, beaten
- 1 teaspoon Kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1 lemon, zested, then juiced
- 1/2 cup flour
- olive oil for pan frying

Directions:

- 1. Using a knife or small food processor, prep the onion, garlic, parsley and mint, set aside. Zest and juice the lemon, set aside.
- 2. Dip 2 slices of dry, white bread into the milk. Wring out any extra milk. Crumble the soaked bread into a large bowl.
- 3. Add the ground beef, ground lamb, minced herbs, oregano, salt, pepper, egg, lemon juice, and lemon zest. Mix the meatball mixture together with clean hands until evenly combined.
- 4. Using a cookie scoop, or hands, roll 1-inch meatballs. Roll each meatball in a dusting of flour, then place on a parchment-lined baking pan. (Extra meatballs may be frozen at this stage, and cooked fresh later.)
- 5. In a large skillet, add a thin layer of olive oil and heat. Once hot, and working in batches, add a few meatballs to the pan. Roll the meatballs around until nicely browned on all sides. Place the cooked meatballs in a covered dish while cooking the remaining meatballs. Serve hot.

Continued on Page 2 - Tzatziki Sauce



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Page 2, continued

Tzatziki Sauce

Makes about 1.5 cups

Ingredients:

1 English cucumber, coarsely grated

1 cup whole milk plain Greek yogurt

1 tablespoon fresh dill, minced

1 clove garlic, grated or crushed

1 lemon, juiced

Kosher salt and pepper, to taste

Directions:

- 1. Prepare the cucumber by peeling, removing the seeds, and grating with a coarse grater. Place the grated cucumber in cheese cloth, and squeeze out any extra water. Lightly salt the cucumber and let drain for at least 2 hours, or overnight in the refrigerator.
- 2. Mince the dill, grate or crush the garlic, and juice the lemon.
- 3. Mix all the ingredients together. Salt and pepper, to taste.