UC Susan Samueli Integrative Health Institute



From the Kitchen of Executive Chef Jessica VanRoo

Amaranth and Quinoa Stuffed Peppers with Roasted Carrot Sauce

## **Ingredients**

Peppers:
\$4 cup PLUS 2 tablespoons quinoa, well rinsed
2 tablespoons amaranth or more quinoa
1 \$4 cup vegetable stock or water
4 large sweet bell peppers: red, yellow, or orange, cut in half vertically, and seeds removed
\$2 cup salsa
1 tablespoon nutritional yeast
2 teaspoons ground cumin
1 \$2 teaspoons garlic powder
1 \$2 cups cooked beans, such as black or pinto, approximately 1 fifteen ounce can drained & rinsed
1 cup fresh or frozen corn, defrosted if frozen

Carrot Sauce: 4 carrots trimmed and cut into bite-size pieces 1 onion quartered 6 garlic cloves whole, skin on 3 tablespoons olive oil 1-2 cups vegetable broth Salt and pepper to taste

Garnish: Sliced avocado Cilantro Lime

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## **Instructions**

- 1. Combine quinoa, amaranth and vegetable stock or water in a pot fitted with a lid. Bring everything to a boil, cover the pot, and reduce to a simmer. Cook for about 20 minutes or until the liquid is absorbed. Remove from the heat, and allow the pot to sit covered for 3 minutes, then remove the lid and fluff. You can also cook the quinoa and amaranth in an Instant Pot. Combine all the ingredients, reduce the liquid to 1 ½ cups, and set the Instant Pot to high pressure for 3 minutes. Allow the Instant Pot to release naturally before removing the lid and fluffing.
- 2. Preheat your oven to 375 degrees. Brush the peppers with oil, place them on a baking sheet lined with parchment or foil, and set aside.
- 3. Combine the cooked grains with salsa, nutritional yeast, cumin, chili powder or smoked paprika, garlic powder, beans, and corn. Mix well. Stuff pepper halves with filling.
- 4. Cover and bake in preheated oven for 30 minutes. Increase the heat to 400 degrees and cook for another 15- 20 minutes, longer if you want a softer pepper. Remove and drizzle with carrot sauce and garnishes, if desired.
- 5. For Carrot Sauce: Preheat your oven to 400 degrees. Toss all the ingredients, except the vegetable stock, on a baking sheet lined with foil or parchment. Roast for 30 minutes, stirring halfway through. Remove the garlic cloves and squeeze out the flesh. Combine everything plus 1 cup of vegetable stock in a blender, and blend until smooth, adding more liquid as desired.

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