Smoked Turkey Sandwiches with Blue Cheese and Caramelized Onions



Recipe by Jamie Purviance

Serves: 4 to 8

Prep time: 15 minutes, plus about 30 minutes for the onions

Grilling time: 3 to 5 minutes

Ingredients

- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 2 pounds onions, each halved vertically and thinly sliced
- 3/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 3/8 teaspoon ground black pepper, divided
- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1/3 cup chopped fresh basil
- 16 slices rustic, country-style bread, each about 1/2 inch thick (do not use ciabatta or other bread with large air pockets)
 - Extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 pound thinly sliced smoked turkey
- 6 ounces coarsely crumbed blue cheese

Instructions

- 1. In a large, heavy skillet over medium-high heat, melt the butter. Separate the onion slices and add them to the skillet. Cook the onions until they begin to brown, about 10 minutes, stirring often. Reduce the heat to medium and cook until the onions are very tender and caramelized, about 15 minutes more, stirring often. Season with the salt and 1/4 teaspoon of the pepper. Remove from the heat to cool.
- 2. Prepare the grill for direct cooking over medium heat (350° to 450°F).
- 3. In a small bowl combine the mayonnaise, basil, and the remaining 1/8 teaspoon pepper.
- 4. Lightly brush one side of each bread slice with oil. Turn all the bread slices over and spread with the mayonnaise mixture, dividing equally. Top eight of the bread slices with equal amounts of turkey, onions, and cheese. Cover with the remaining eight bread slices, mayonnaise mixture side down.
- 5. Brush the cooking grates clean. Grill the sandwiches over **direct medium heat**, with the lid closed as much as possible, until the cheese melts and the bread is golden, 3 to 5 minutes, turning once. Remove from the grill and serve right away.



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