CHICKEN WITH PRUNES & APRICOTS

INGREDIENTS

| 1/2 C | Orange juice |
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| 1 C | Apricots (dried) (prunes) OR a combination of any dried fruit |
| 12 | Garlic (cloves) (minced) |
| 1/2 inch | Ginger piece (fresh ginger) (peeled) (finely chopped) (about 1 1/2 T) |
| 2 T | Oregano (dried) |
| 1 T | Thyme (dried) |
| 1/3 C | Red Wine Vinegar |
| 3 T | Extra-virgin olive oil |
| 1 1/2 t | Lemon juice (fresh lemon) |
| 2 | Bay leaves |
| 4 lbs | 2 Chickens (each cut into 8 pieces) |
| 1 1/2 t | Kosher salt (if needed) |
| 1/2 t | Black pepper (ground) |
| 1/2 C | Sugar (light brown) (packed) |
| 1/2 C | White Wine |

DIRECTIONS

- In a small bowl, pour orange juice over dried fruit & let soak to plump the fruit (about 10 minutes).
- 2 In a separate small bowl, whisk together garlic, ginger, oregano, thyme, vinegar, olive oil, lemon juice & bay leaves.
- 3 Place chickens in two roasting pans & pour marinade equally over each chicken & massage into chicken.
- **4** Add orange juice and fruit mixture equally to each roasting pan.
- 5 Cover pans & marinate in the refrigerator for 4 hours or overnight.
- 6 Pre-heat oven to 375 F & sprinkle chicken with salt (if needed) & pepper
- 7 Then drizzle equally with brown sugar & white wine.
- 8 Bake until chicken is nicely browned on top & registers 165°F in the thickest part of the thigh, (about 1 hour & 15 minutes).
- **9** Serve with pan juices & dried fruit.

NOTES

- 1 Additions: Baked carrots (orange & yellow), garlic, cumin, cayenne pepper, red onions cooked & cut into wedges to decorate plus parsley
- 2 Tastes best when marinated a minimum of 4 hours & preferably overnight.
- 3 Can be prepared 2 days ahead of time.

Store, covered, in the refrigerator or freeze up to 3 months.

Defrost in the refrigerator.

Re-warm, covered, in a warming drawer or 300F oven