# Smokey Sausage Sliders with Bacon Jam & Pickled Red Onions

Author: Chef Ross Katz Prep Time: Apx. 2hrs Yield: 12 sliders

### **Description:**

The perfect game day dish to show off your skills with your smoker and in the kitchen.

## Ingredients:

## Sausage

Ground Pork - 1 Lb

Kosher Salt - 1 1/2 tsp

Granulated Garlic - ½ tsp

Onion Powder - ½ tsp

Black Pepper - ½ tsp

Brown Sugar - 1 tsp

Smoked Paprika - ½ tsp

Chili Flakes - ½ tsp

Chili Powder - ½ tsp

Celery Salt - ½ tsp

### **BBQ Bacon Jam**

Bacon (Diced) - 1 lb
Onion (minced) - ½ ea
Cider Vinegar - ¼ cup
Ketchup - ¼ cup
Molasses - 2 Tbsp
Chili Powder - 1 Tbsp
Black Pepper - 1 tsp
Granulated Garlic - ½ tsp
Onion Powder - ¼ tsp
Brown Sugar - ½ cup
Course Mustard - ¼ cup

### **Pickled Red Onions**

Red Onion (Shaved) - 1 ea Jalapeno (Shaved) - 1 ea Kosher Salt - 1 Tbsp Brown Sugar - 1 Tbsp Cider Vinegar - ½ cup Water - ½ cup

## Slider Assembly

Hawaiian Rolls – 1 – 12pk Pepper Jack Cheese – 6 slices Butter – 1 stick Granulated Garlic – 1 tsp Kosher Salt – ½ tsp



#### **Directions**

- 1. Combine your ground pork with your sausage spices and mix well.
- 2. Set your sausage mix aside to marinate and begin working on your BBQ Bacon Jam and Pickled Red Onions.

### **BBQ Bacon Jam**

- 1. In a medium saucepan, begin cooking your bacon until crispy.
- 2. Once your bacon bits are crispy, remove them from the pan, and pour off all but 2 Tbsp of the bacon fat.
- 3. Add your minced onions to the pan, and sauté till translucent.
- 4. Deglaze your pan with the cider vinegar, and then add your ketchup, molasses, your spices, brown sugar, mustard, and last your crispy bacon.
- 5. Bring the whole mixture to a simmer and cook until you achieve a thick jammy consistency.
- 6. Cool and store till you are ready to use.

### Pickled Red Onions

- Shave your onions and jalapenos as thin as possible, and set in a heat-resistant bowl
- 2. Combine your salt, sugar, vinegar, and water in a small saucepan and bring to a boil.
- 3. Pour the vinegar brine over your onions and jalapenos, and store for at least 30 minutes or in the fridge for up to a month.

## Slider Assembly

- 1. Pre-Heat your Traeger Pellet Grill to 350 degrees with your favorite pellet blend.
- 2. Slice your King's Hawaiian rolls lengthwise while keeping your rolls connected.
- 3. Line a baking pan with parchment paper, and brush liberally with butter.
- 4. Lay the bottom portion of your King's Hawaiian rolls in the pan and spread the raw sausage mix evenly over the buns.
- Leave the top buns off and smoke your sausage sliders for 20 mins. in your Traeger.
- After 20 minutes of smoking, add your pepperjack cheese and top each slider with a small dollop of bacon jam.
- 7. Bake for another 10 minutes then add your slider bun tops. Brush with melted butter, sprinkle with granulated garlic and kosher salt, then bake for 5 more minutes.
- 8. Allow about 5 minutes to cool before cutting and serving

