

FROM OUR FLAVORS OF THE SOUTHERN COAST COOKBOOK

# **Blackened Fish Tacos**

### **MAKES 4 SERVINGS**

### PICO DE GALLO

- 2 (Roma) plum tomatoes, seeded and cut into 1/4-in. dice
- 1 Tbsp minced white or yellow onion
- 1 tsp minced fresh cilantro
- 1 tsp fresh lime juice
- 1 tsp olive oil (not extra virgin)

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

### LIME SOUR CREAM

 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sour cream

1 Tbsp fresh lime juice

# CHIPOTLE AIOLI (Makes about ¾ cup)

½ cup mayonnaise

- 2 Tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1 Tbsp minced canned chipotles in adobo
- 2½ tsp fresh lime juice
- 1/8 tsp kosher salt

# CAJUN SEASONING (Makes about 3 Tbsp)

2 tsp cayenne pepper

1½ tsp freshly ground black pepper

1½ tsp granulated garlic

1½ tsp granulated onion

1½ tsp dried thyme

1½ tsp dried oregano

1 tsp kosher salt

## ASIAN SLAW (Makes about 8 cups)

1 cup mayonnaise

2 Tbsp rice vinegar

2 Tbsp drained and chopped pickled ginger for sushi

1 tsp celery seed

1 tsp sugar

1 small head green cabbage, cored and shredded, about 6 cups

2 cups peeled and julienned jícama (use a V-slicer or mandolin)

½ red onion, cut into thin half moons

1/4 cup coarsely chopped fresh cilantro

Hawaiian pink or kosher salt and freshly ground white pepper

### **FISH**

4 cod or basia fillets, about 6 oz. each

4 tsp Cajun seasoning

4 Tbsp canola oil

### **TO SERVE**

12 corn tortillas, heated

2 cups Asian Slaw (see below), drained well

Lime wedges, for garnish

Special equipment: 2 food-service plastic squeeze bottles

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. Pico de Gallo: Mix all the ingredients in a small bowl, seasoning to taste with salt and pepper.
- 2. Lime Sour Cream: Whisk the sour cream and lime juice together in a small bowl until combined.

- 3. Chipotle Aioli: Process all the ingredients together in a mini-food processor or blender. Transfer to a covered container. The aioli can be refrigerated for up to 1 week.
- 4. Cajun Seasoning: Whisk all the ingredients together in a bowl. Transfer to a covered jar and store in a cool, dark place for up to 3 months.
- 5. Asian Slaw: Whisk the mayonnaise, rice vinegar, pickled ginger, celery seeds, and sugar together in a large bowl. Add the cabbage, jícama, red onion, and cilantro and mix well. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Cover and refrigerate until chilled, at least 2 hours or up to 2 days. Serve chilled.
- 6. Purée the Chipotle Aioli in a mini-food processor, making sure it's smooth enough to pass through the opening of a squeeze bottle.
- 7. Transfer the lime sour cream and aioli to separate food-service plastic squeeze bottles (or put them in small, sealable plastic bags and snip off one corner of each bag to make a ¼-in. wide opening).
- 8. Fish: Position a rack in the center of the oven and preheat the oven to 200°F/95°C. Season the cod all over with the Cajun seasoning. Heat a large skillet, preferably cast iron, over high heat until it is very hot. Add 2 Tbsp of the canola oil. Add half of the cod and cook, turning once, until well browned on both sides, about 4 minutes. Transfer to a baking sheet and keep warm in the oven. Repeat with the remaining oil and cod.