

LUNCH | PEAK SEASON: Summer

# Marinated Veggie Muffaletta Sandwich

Recipe by: Chad Cherry

Yields: 4 servings

Prep Time: 25 minutes (plus

marinating)

Chill Time: At least 1 hour (can be made

ahead)

## **Nutritional Info**

Calories: 290 Fat: 15g Carbs: 25g Sugars: 5g

Fiber: 3.5q Sodium: 750mg

Protein: 6g \*see additional info for low sodium options

# **Ingredients**

## Olive Spread (Muffaletta-style Tapenade)

- ¾ cup mixed olives, pitted and chopped (green + Kalamata)
- 2 tbsp capers
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp fresh parsley or basil, chopped
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tsp red wine vinegar or lemon juice
- Pinch of crushed red pepper flakes (optional)

#### **Marinated Vegetables**

- ½ cup cucumber, thinly sliced
- ½ red bell pepper, thinly sliced
- ½ yellow bell pepper, thinly sliced
- ½ red onion, thinly sliced
- 1 small tomato, sliced
- 1 small summer squash (zucchini or yellow), thinly sliced
- 1 cup mushrooms (cremini or portobello), thinly sliced
- 2 tbsp coconut aminos
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp apple cider vinegar
- Season to taste

## **Instructions**

#### 1. Make the Olive Spread

 In a food processor or by hand, finely chop olives, capers, garlic, and herbs. Mix in olive oil, vinegar/lemon juice, and red pepper flakes. Set aside or refrigerate.

### 2. Marinate the Vegetables

- In a large bowl, toss cucumber, peppers, onion, squash, mushrooms, and tomatoes with coconut aminos, olive oil, vinegar, salt, and pepper.
- Let marinate for at least 30 60 minutes in the fridge (or overnight for deeper flavor).

### 3. Prepare the Bread

- Slice your round loaf in half horizontally.
- Optional: Scoop out some of the bread interior to make space for fillings
- Spread olive tapenade generously on both sides.
- Optionally spread vegan cheese or hummus for creaminess.

#### 4. Assemble the Sandwich

- Layer marinated vegetables evenly across the bottom half.
- · Add greens if using.
- Press the top half of the bread on firmly.

#### 5. Press & Serve

- Wrap the whole sandwich tightly in parchment or foil.
- Press under a weighted object (a cast iron pan or books) for 30 minutes in the fridge to help the flavors meld and compress.
- Slice into wedges and serve cold or room temp.

# Additional Info

For Lower sodium, use less olives and capers and replace with roasted red peppers and/or sun dried tomatoes.

Optional: baby greens, arugula, vegan cheese spread, or roasted garlic hummus

