



*Austen with Papa*

## *Cedar Plank-Grilled Salmon with Avocado-Orange Salsa*

*Bobby Collins*

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|---|---|
| 1 (15 x 6½ x ¾-inch) cedar grilling plank     | ¾ cup diced peeled avocado (about 1)      |
| ¼ cup maple syrup                             | ¼ cup fresh orange juice (about 1 orange) |
| 2 Tbsp. Cointreau (orange-flavored liqueur)   | 2 Tbsp. finely chopped red onion          |
| 1 tsp. grated orange rind                     | 2 Tbsp. finely chopped red bell pepper    |
| ½ tsp. salt, divided                          | 1 Tbsp. finely chopped fresh chives       |
| ¼ tsp. freshly ground black pepper, divided   | 1 Tbsp. fresh lime juice                  |
| 6 (6 oz.) salmon fillets (about 1 inch thick) |   |
| 1 cup orange sections (about 2 oranges)       |   |

Immerse and soak the plank in water 1 hour; drain. Prepare grill.

Combine syrup, Cointreau, and rind in small saucepan; bring to a boil. Cook until reduced by  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup, about 3 minutes. Cool 5 minutes. Sprinkle  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon salt and  $\frac{1}{8}$  teaspoon black pepper over fish; brush fish with syrup mixture.

Place plank on grill rack, and grill for 3 minutes or until lightly charred. Carefully turn plank over, and place fish on charred side of plank. Cover and grill for 12 minutes or until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork or until desired degree of doneness.

Combine remaining  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon salt, remaining  $\frac{1}{8}$  teaspoon black pepper, orange sections, avocado, orange juice, onion, bell pepper, chives, and lime juice in a medium bowl; serve with fish.

**Wine Note:** Salmon works with many white wines (and even some reds), but when the nutty, woody flavor of a charred cedar plank is factored in, I'd serve a California Chardonnay. It, too, has nutty woody flavors, and a creamy citrusy Chardonnay will also mirror the creaminess of the avocado and the citrusiness of the orange. Try Geyser Peak Winery Chardonnay 2005 from Alexander Valley, California (\$13).—Karen MacNeil

## *Salmon Croquettes*

*Connie Horany*

1 (15 oz.) can salmon (reserve juice)	1 heaping tsp. baking powder
1 egg	$\frac{1}{2}$ cup flour

Drain salmon in cup. Pour flour in salmon and add egg. Add baking powder to  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup salmon juice and beat with fork. Fold into salmon. Drop by tablespoonfuls into hot grease and cook until they float to top of grease.