



ANSON MILLS

Kimchi Pancakes (Kimchi Pajeon)

Yield

Two (6½-inch) pancakes, serving 3 or 4 as an appetizer

Time

About 40 minutes, start to finish

Cooking Remarks

Kimchi pancakes are a terrific way to use kimchi that has fermented past your tolerance for tart. In fact, the tangier the kimchi, the tastier the pancakes. Drain the kimchi before measuring it: put it into a fine-mesh strainer set over a bowl and press down with a rubber spatula to extract excess juice. Whatever kimchi and juice you don't use may be returned to the jar. The kimchi for the pancake should be more stemmy than leafy—75/25 is a good mix.

The only tricky part of this recipe is the release and flip. Get yourself a nice, broad spatula and don't attempt to turn the pancake until the bottom has cooked enough to give the pancake integrity. If you're using a cast-iron skillet, be sure that it's nicely seasoned. A nonstick pan is also a good option.

Equipment Mise en Place

For this recipe, you will need a digital kitchen scale, a ramekin or sauce dish, a fine-mesh strainer, a medium bowl and a small bowl, a rubber spatula, a 10-inch well-seasoned cast-iron or nonstick skillet, a small offset spatula, a wide metal spatula.

Ingredients

for the sauce

2½ tablespoons soy sauce

1½ tablespoons water

2 teaspoons toasted sesame oil

1½ teaspoons rice vinegar

1½ teaspoons sugar

1 scallion, green part only, thinly sliced

½ teaspoon Anson Mills Sea Island Benne Seeds, toasted (optional)

for the pancake

2.3 ounces (½ cup) Anson Mills Carolina Gold Rice Flour

1 ounce (2 tablespoons) Anson Mills French Mediterranean White Bread Flour

½ teaspoon fine sea salt

½ teaspoon sugar

¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

6 ounces (1 scant cup) well-drained Mak Kimchi (see Cooking Remarks), coarsely chopped

3 slender scallions, white and light green parts thinly sliced, dark green tops cut into $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch lengths

3.5 ounces (7 tablespoons) ice water

2 tablespoons kimchi juice

6 ounces shrimp, peeled, deveined, and cut into $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch pieces

2½ tablespoons grapeseed oil

Directions

1. *Make the sauce:* In a ramekin or sauce dish, combine all of the ingredients and stir until the sugar dissolves. Set aside until ready to serve.

2. *Make the pancake:* In a medium bowl, whisk together the flours, salt, sugar, and pepper. Add the kimchi, scallions, kimchi juice, and water and mix with a rubber spatula until well combined. Add the shrimp and stir until evenly distributed. Pour half (about 9.5 ounces or 1 cup) of the batter into a small bowl (portioning it now means you won't have to at the stove top).

3. In a well-seasoned 10-inch cast-iron or nonstick skillet, warm 1½ tablespoons grapeseed oil over medium-high heat until shimmering. Swirl the pan to coat to the surface. Working quickly, use the rubber spatula to scrape one portion of the batter into the center of the skillet in a mound, and then quickly spread the batter into a 6½- to 7-inch round of even thickness with a small offset spatula; it's fine if the round and its edges are not perfect. Cook for 3 minutes, and then carefully slide a wide metal spatula under the pancake to loosen it from the pan. Rotate the pan 180 degrees on the burner (to even out the cooking if there are hot spots) and continue to cook until the pancake is deeply browned and crisp, about 2 minutes longer. Carefully flip the pancake with the metal spatula and cook for 2 minutes. Once again loosen the pancake and rotate the pan. Continue to cook until the second side is dark spotty brown, 1 to 2 minutes longer. Transfer the pancake to a cutting board and let cool for about 3 minutes to allow the starches to set up. Cut into wedges and serve with the sauce (with a small spoon for drizzling the sauce). Meanwhile, cook the remaining batter in the same way, using the remaining 1 tablespoon grapeseed oil.