Cherry Dump Cake

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Cook Time: 1 hour, 20 minutes Total Time: 1 hour, 30 minutes

Serves: 10

Ingredients:

3 ¾ pounds (60 ounces) frozen dark, sweet, pitted cherries ½ - 1 cup sugar, depending on how sweet you desire your filling

Zest from 1 lemon

2 teaspoons vanilla extract

¼ cup water

- 1 20 ounce can crushed pineapple in its own juice
- 1 15.25 ounce box Yellow Cake Mix (I prefer Duncan Hines brand) (not "Butter" cake mix)
- 1 ½ sticks unsalted butter, melted
- 1 ½ cups chopped macadamia nuts, lightly toasted, see Notes

Instructions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 9x13" dish.
- 2. In a medium skillet over medium heat, add the frozen cherries, lemon zest, vanilla, sugar, and water. Bring the cherries to a gentle boil then turn heat to low and allow to thaw, simmer, and cook down a little further, approximately 20 minutes.
- 3. In your 9x13" pan, dump the contents of the crushed pineapple in the bottom of the pan. Spread evenly.
- 4. Evenly spread the warm cherry mixture over the pineapple.
- 5. Evenly sprinkle the entire bag of cake mix over the cherries.
- 6. Pour the melted butter as evenly as possible over the cake mix.
- 7. Sprinkle the nuts over top.
- 8. Bake, uncovered, in the oven for 1 hour. Sides should be bubbling and the top lightly browned.
- 9. Remove from the oven and serve warm in bowls with vanilla ice cream.
- 10. Refrigerate any leftovers.