

# One-Pot Chicken and Rice With Caramelized Lemon

By **Dan Pelosi**

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**Total Time** 55 minutes

**Prep Time** 10 minutes

**Cook Time** 45 minutes

**Rating** ★★★★★ (2,650)



Ryan Liebe for The New York Times. Food Stylist: Maggie Ruggiero.

This simple one-pot chicken and rice dish is topped with caramelized lemon slices that add sweet flavor and texture. Thin slices of lemon are cooked in chicken fat and oil until their pulp dissolves, their pith sweetens and their rind softens to the point of being edible. Briny Castelvetrano olives and herby dried oregano are wrapped up in creamy rice and topped with juicy chicken thighs. Fresh parsley and a squeeze of fresh lemon juice on top before serving add brightness and crunch.

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## INGREDIENTS

**Yield:** 4 servings

4 bone-in, skin-on chicken thighs  
(about 1½ pounds)  
Salt and black pepper  
2 teaspoons dried oregano  
Crushed red pepper  
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil  
2 lemons  
1 cup pitted Castelvetrano or  
kalamata olives, smashed and  
roughly chopped  
6 garlic cloves, minced  
1 medium shallot or ½ medium  
onion, minced  
2 cups long-grain white rice, rinsed  
4 cups (32 ounces) chicken broth  
¼ cup roughly chopped fresh  
parsley, for serving

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## PREPARATION

### Step 1

Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Use paper towels to pat the chicken thighs until dry on all sides. Season the chicken with 1 teaspoon each salt, pepper and dried oregano and a pinch of crushed red pepper.

### Step 2

Place a large Dutch oven or other heavy-bottomed pot over medium-high heat and add oil. Let oil heat up for a few minutes. Add thighs to the pot, skin side down, and let cook undisturbed until they self-release from the bottom of the pot, about 5 minutes. Remove from the pot and set aside.

### Step 3

Cut 1 lemon into ¼-inch-thick slices. Add to the pot and cook until caramelized and softened, about 2 minutes. Remove from the pot and set aside.

### Step 4

Add the olives, garlic, shallot and 1 teaspoon each salt, pepper and dried oregano to the pot. Cook over medium-low heat, scraping browned bits from the bottom of the pan, until garlic is fragrant, 2 to 3 minutes. Turn the heat up to high, add the rice and broth to the pot, stir to combine and cover until it comes to a boil, about 5 minutes.

### Step 5

Remove the pot from heat, add the browned chicken thighs on top of the rice, skin side up, then cover the chicken thighs with the lemon slices. Place the pot, covered, into the oven and bake until the rice and chicken are fully cooked, 25 to 30 minutes. Serve topped with fresh parsley and a squeeze of lemon juice.

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