## **Salt and Serenity**

## Israeli Salad on a Bed of Hummus

Adapted from Ina Garten's Israeli Salad recipe on foodnetwork.com Serves 4

- 1 small can chickpeas, rinsed and drained
- 2 Tablespoons olive oil
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt
- ½ teaspoon ground cumin
- ½ teaspoon smoked paprika
- ¼ cup finely diced purple onion
- 1 English cucumber, halved, seeded and cut into ¼ inch dice (no need to peel)
- 2 cups grape tomatoes, quartered
- 1 red pepper, seeded, diced into ¼ inch pieces
- 1/4 cup Italian parsley leaves, coarsely chopped
- 1/4 cup fresh mint leaves, coarsely chopped
- 2 Tablespoons freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 4 tablespoons olive oil
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- 2 cups store bought hummus
- 1 teaspoon sumac (optional)
- 1 Tablespoon olive oil
- 1 bag pita chips
- 1. Preheat oven to 425°F. In a medium, mixing bowl, toss chickpeas with oil, salt, cumin and paprika. Spread out on a parchment lined baking sheet. Bake in oven for 25-30 minutes until chickpeas are browned and crispy. Remove from oven and set aside.
- 2. Soak diced red onion in a bowl of cold ice water for 10 minutes. Drain and squeeze all the excess water out of the onions.
- 3. In a large mixing bowl toss together soaked and drained red onions, cucumber, tomatoes, red pepper, parsley and mint.
- 4. Whisk together lemon juice, olive oil, salt and pepper. Drizzle on vegetables and taste to see if more seasoning is needed.
- 5. Spread hummus on a large serving platter, creating attractive swirls with spoon. Sprinkle sumac over the hummus. Drizzle a little olive oil over the hummus.
- 6. Arrange Israeli salad around the edge of the platter. Scatter toasted chickpeas over the salad. Serve with pita chips for scooping.