

Devon Venison Mince Cottage Pie

Venison mince is a versatile and lean alternative to beef, offering a rich, gamey flavour that elevates traditional dishes like cottage pie. This recipe uses Devon venison mince, providing a true taste of the local countryside. Cottage pie has historical roots in British cuisine as a hearty, comforting meal for working families. The dish showcases the mince's tenderness and depth, perfect for a family dinner or casual gathering. Pair it with a glass of full-bodied red wine like a Shiraz or a robust ale.

Instructions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 190°C (375°F).
- 2. Heat a skillet over medium heat and cook the onion, carrots, and garlic until softened.
- 3. Add the venison mince and brown it, breaking it up as it cooks.
- Stir in tomato paste, stock, Worcestershire sauce, thyme, salt, and pepper. Simmer for 15 minutes.
- 5. Transfer the mixture to a baking dish, top with mashed potatoes, and bake for 25-30 minutes until golden.
- 6. Serve hot with steamed greens or buttered peas.

Ingredients:

- 1 lb (450 g) Devon venison mince
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 2 carrots, diced
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 tbsp tomato paste
- 1 cup (240 ml) beef stock
- 2 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tsp fresh thyme leaves
- 2 cups (450 g) mashed potatoes
- Salt and pepper to taste