

Cross Cultural Curry

Serves 4-6 | 20 minutes prep + 60 minutes cook time (plus 90 minutes for roux)

Food crosses borders easily, and the western dishes adapted by Japanese cooks called yōshoku offer some tasty examples. Jim takes one of his favorites, Japanese-style curry, around the world to gather a few more flavors for a completely inauthentic but tasty bowl of rice and gravy.

6 tablespoons flour, divided

2 medium carrots, cut into 3/4 inch pieces

2 yellow potatoes, peeled and cut into ¾ inch pieces

1 celeriac, peeled and cut into ¾ inch pieces

1 medium onion, chopped

6 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil, divided

2 cups dashi

2 tablespoons sake

2 tablespoons mirin

4 tablespoons soy sauce

2 tablespoons curry powder

1/4 cup red miso

Salt to taste

Step 1 Preheat the oven to 350F.

Step 2 Make a dark roux by combining 3 tablespoons of the flour with 2 tablespoons of olive oil in a small skillet. Bake until the color of dark chocolate (approximately 90 minutes).

Step 3 Cook the vegetables in 2 tablespoons of olive oil with a good pinch of salt for 5 minutes. Add the dashi, mirin, sake, and soy sauce, reduce heat, cover, and simmer until tender. Drain and reserve the cooking liquid.

Step 4 Combine the remaining flour, curry powder and olive oil in a large skillet and cook for a few minutes. Stir in the dark roux, then add the reserved cooking liquid from the vegetables, adding water or more broth if needed to make about 3 cups. Cook, stirring frequently, until the sauce thickens, about 5 minutes.

Step 3 Stir in the miso and the cooked vegetables. Cook gently for another 10 minutes. Taste and add salt if needed. Serve over rice.