

THE DISH FOR BOLD BLENDS

Beef daube with shallots and dried porcini

SERVES 8 TO 10 | 3 HOURS, PLUS AT LEAST 4 HOURS TO MARINATE

An earthy, southern French-style stew is the perfect main course to match a gamut of red blends of southern French grapes. Serve it over hot buttered noodles, garnished with fresh thyme.

4 lbs. boned beef chuck, cut into $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in. chunks, rinsed and dried

5 sprigs fresh thyme

3 long, thin orange peel strips plus 2 tbsp. grated peel

1 tsp. kosher salt

1/2 tsp. pepper

1 bottle (750 ml.) dry red wine

About 2 cups beef broth

2 oz. dried porcini mushrooms

4 oz. pancetta, diced

Olive oil (if needed)

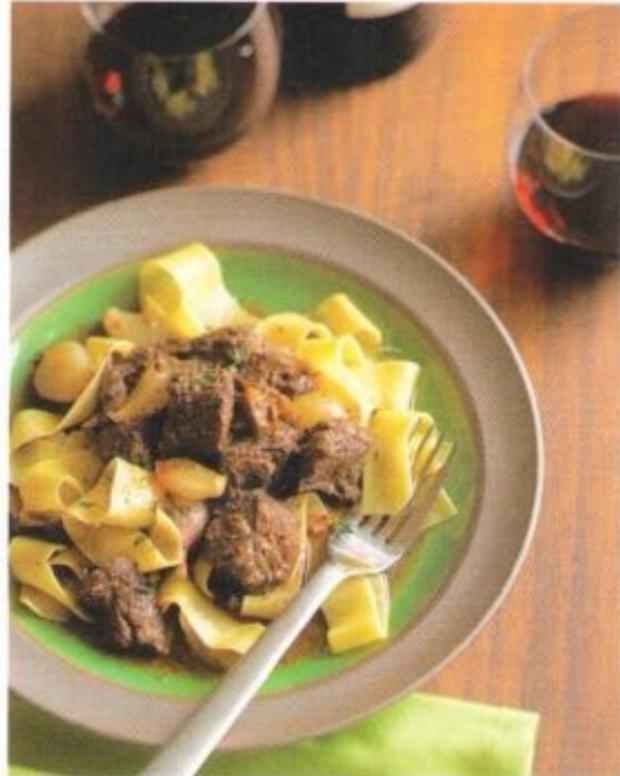
1 lb. shallots, peeled

1. Mix beef, thyme, orange peel strips, salt, pepper, and wine in a bowl. Cover and chill, stirring occasionally, at least 4 hours or overnight.

2. Bring 2 cups beef broth to a boil and pour over porcini in a bowl. Let stand until mushrooms are soft, about 20 minutes. Lift mushrooms out and coarsely chop. Reserve soaking liquid.

3. Meanwhile, pour beef and marinade into a strainer set over a bowl. Discard thyme sprigs and orange peel strips; reserve marinade. Dry beef on paper towels.

4. Cook pancetta in a large, heavy pot over medium-high heat, stirring often, until browned and crisp, 5 to 8 minutes. Lift out with a slotted spoon. Add beef in



batches and cook, turning pieces, until well browned all over, 7 to 8 minutes per batch. If you need more fat in the pot, add oil between batches. Transfer beef to a large bowl as browned. Add shallots to pot and cook, stirring often, until browned, about 5 minutes. Transfer to another bowl.

5. Return pancetta and beef to pot and add reserved marinade, mushroom-soaking liquid (pour in carefully, leaving sediment behind), and mushrooms. Liquid should just cover meat; add a little more broth if necessary. Cover and simmer, gently stirring occasionally, about 2 hours. Add the shallots and grated orange peel and continue simmering, uncovered, until beef is very tender when pierced, about 30 minutes longer.

PER SERVING 377 CAL., 43% (161 CAL.) FROM FAT, 41 G PROTEIN, 18 G FAT (6.4 G SAT.); 12 G CARBO (1.2 G FIBER); 633 MG SODIUM; 128 MG CHOL. ■