

Recipes from Malawi

NSIMA & NDIWO

(PRONOUNCED EN-SEE-MA AND EN-DEE-WOH)

Nsima is so integral to **Malawian** culture that locals eat it for breakfast, lunch and supper. **Ndiwo** is a delightful fusion of leafy greens, tomatoes and spice, and is a testament to the vibrancy of Malawian cuisine.



SERVINGS: 4 PREP TIME: 10 MINS COOK TIME: 45 MINS

INGREDIENTS

Nsima:

- 2 cups cornmeal
- 4 cups water

Ndiwo:

- 2 tbsp cooking oil
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 4 tomatoes, diced
- 1 tsp chilli flakes
- 500g leafy greens (kale, spinach or similar), finely chopped
- Water
- Salt and pepper, to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

Nsima:

- 1. Pour water into a large pot (2 cups for each cup of cornmeal). Bring to a boil over high heat.
- 2. After 4-5 minutes, add in half the cornmeal to the water (one spoonful at a time). Stir with a wooden spoon.
- 3. Continue stirring until the mixture begins to boil. Reduce the heat to medium. Cook for a few more minutes.
- 4. Add the remaining cornmeal and stir. It's crucial that you keep stirring until the mixture is smooth, thick and lumpfree.
- 5. Feel free to keep adding cornmeal until you reach the desired consistency. Then, turn the heat off, cover the pot and let it rest for a few minutes.
- 6. Stir and scoop the nsima, shaping it into balls/patties (see image). Allow it to cool.
- 7. Serve with fish or meat and ndiwo (relish).

Ndiwo:

- 1. Heat oil and saute onions and garlic until fragrant.
- 2. Add tomatoes, cooking until they break down and form a thick sauce.
- 3. Stir in the chilli flakes, adjusting according to your desired spice level.
- 4. Add the greens to the pot, stirring to coat them in the tomatoes.
- 5. Add a splash of water if needed and let the ndiwo simmer until the greens are tender. Season with salt and pepper.