Salisbury Steak

Serves 4-6

Steaks:

- 1 medium yellow onion
- 3 T Worcestershire sauce
- 3 T ketchup
- 1 tsp brown sugar
- 1 large egg
- Salt and black pepper
- 450 g ground beef
- ½ C panko
- Olive oil, for searing

Gravy:

- 227 g cremini (button) or other mushrooms
- Salt and black pepper
- 1 T all-purpose flour
- 240 ml beef stock
- 120 ml whole milk
- Worcestershire sauce, ketchup and brown sugar, for seasoning (optional)
- Finely chopped fresh chives, for sprinkling (optional)

Prepare the steaks:

- 1. Grate about a quarter of the **onion** into a medium bowl (about 13 g). Set aside the remaining onion for the gravy.
- 2. Add the **Worcestershire sauce**, **ketchup**, **brown sugar** and **egg**; season generously with salt and pepper and whisk to combine.
- 3. Add the **ground beef** and **panko**, gently stir the mixture to combine without overmixing.
- 4. Form into 8 small, oval-shaped patties about 2½-cm thick, place on a plate and into the freezer for 5 to 10 minutes to firm up.
- 5. Meanwhile, finely dice the remaining **onion**. Using a wet towel, wipe the **mushrooms** clean and thinly slice them.

Cook the steaks:

- 1. Heat a large skillet over medium and add enough **olive oil** to lightly coat the bottom.
- 2. Remove the patties from the freezer, add them to the hot oil and cook until browned, 2 to 3 minutes per side. Transfer to a plate.

Prepare the gravy:

- 1. To the same skillet, add the **onion** and **mushrooms**, season with **salt** and raise the heat to **medium-high**.
- 2. Cook, stirring occasionally until deeply browned but not burned, **8 to 10 minutes**. The vegetables will release their water before starting to brown, so be patient. Add more oil if the pan looks dry.
- 3. Sprinkle over the **flour** and cook, stirring, until you can no longer see streaks of white and the raw flour taste cooks out, about 30 seconds.
- 4. Stir in the **beef stock** and **milk**. Season generously with **salt** and **pepper** and bring to a simmer over medium-high. Taste the sauce and season to taste with ½ to 1 tsp Worcestershire for more savoriness, 1 T ketchup for tanginess, and a pinch of brown sugar for a little sweetness.
- 5. Add the seared steaks to the gravy and reduce the heat to continue simmering, basting the steaks once or twice, until the gravy is thicker and reduced to your liking, 4 to 5 minutes.
- 6. Serve immediately and sprinkle with chives.

