

# COLOMBIAN EMPANADAS

Adapted from My Colombian Recipes

**MAKES 12 SERVINGS** 

## **INGREDIENTS**

#### **DOUGH**

- 1½ cups precooked yellow cornmeal masarepa
- · 2 cups water
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- ½ tablespoon Sazón Goya with azafran
- ½ teaspoon salt

### **FILLING**

- 2 cups peeled, diced white potatoes
- 1 chicken or vegetable bouillon tablet
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/4 cup chopped white onions
- 1 cup chopped tomato
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1/4 cup chopped green onions
- 1 chopped garlic clove
- 2 tablespoon chopped fresh cilantro
- 2 tablespoon chopped red bell pepper
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 pound ground pork and beef

# **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Vegetable oil, for frying
- · Lime and ají picante, for serving



# **INSTRUCTIONS**

## TO MAKE THE DOUGH:

- 1. Place the yellow cornmeal masarepa in a large bowl.
- 2. Add the Sazón Goya and salt, then stir to mix well.
- 3. Add the water and oil.
- 4. Mix to form dough.
- 5. Pat the dough into a ball and knead for 2 minutes or until smooth.
- 6. Cover with plastic and set aside for 20 minutes.

#### TO MAKE THE FILLING:

- 1. Cook the potatoes in a pot with water and the bouillon tablet for 20 to 25 minutes or until tender.
- 2. Drain and gently mash the potatoes. Set aside.
- 3. Heat 1 tablespoon of olive oil in a large, heavy skillet.
- 4. Add the onion and cook over medium-low heat stirring frequently for 5 minutes.
- 5. Add the tomatoes, green onions, garlic, bell pepper, cilantro, salt, and black pepper.
- 6. Cook for about 15 minutes.
- 7. Add the ground pork and beef.
- 8. Cook the meat by breaking it up with a wooden spoon. Do this for 10 to 15 minutes or until the mixture is fairly dry.
- 9. Transfer the meat mixture to the mashed potatoes bowl and mix well to combine.

## **ASSEMBLE THE EMPANADAS:**

- 1. Break small portions of the dough, about the size of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tablespoons, and form each portion into a ball by rolling between the palms of your hands.
- 2. Place the balls of dough between two pieces of plastic and roll each out very thinly to form a circle.
- 3. Remove the top plastic and place 1 tablespoon of the filling in the center of each.
- 4. Using the plastic underneath, fold the dough over to enclose the filling, forming a half circle.
- 5. Tightly seal the edges by crimping with the tines of a fork.
- 6. Fill a large pot with vegetable oil and heat over medium heat to 360 F.
- 7. Carefully place 3 or 4 empanadas at the same time in the heated oil and fry for about 2 minutes until golden on all sides.
- 8. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the empanadas to a plate lined with paper towels.
- 9. Serve with ají picante and lime on the side.