## **Steamed Spareribs with Preserved Plums Recipe** (Chinese Recipes)

**Ingredients:** Serves 4-6

1 lb lean spareribs, cut across meat and bone into 30 pieces, each 1½ inches thick have the butcher do this (2 cups)

½ teaspoon baking soda

5 preserved plums, pitted and mashed

5 garlic cloves, peeled and minced

4 teaspoons bean sauce

1 tablespoon soy sauce

1 teaspoon dark soy sauce

1 tablespoon Chinese white rice wine or gin

 $1\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoons minced fresh ginger

1 tablespoon sugar

1½ tablespoons Chinese white rice vinegar or distilled vinegar

1 tablespoon cornstarch

Pinch freshly ground white pepper

## Method:

Wash and dry the spareribs, place in a large mixing bowl, add the baking soda, and mix well. Allow to rest, covered, in the refrigerator for 2 hours. Place the mashed plums and minced garlic in a small bowl and blend together. Place the spareribs and all other ingredients, including the plum-garlic mixture, in a steamproof dish, mix well, and marinate in the refrigerator for at least 8 hours or overnight. Before cooking, return to room temperature. Place the steamproof dish with spareribs and marinade in a steamer. Cover and steam for 45 minutes, until the spareribs are tender. Turn off the heat. Serve the spareribs directly from the steamproof dish, accompanied by cooked rice.

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