

Coquito Competition

Story of the Bottle

1- La Receta Secreta (The Secret Recipe)

Few people who reside outside of Puerto Rico have had the pleasure of sampling this treasured family coquito recipe. It is rumored that each year, thousands of people embark on a mecca to the island to sample this exact concoction.

2- The Pirate's "Aye"

As the story goes, the captain would bring aboard a case of this sweetened rum concoction for the crew, and after a suitable portion was consumed he would shout, "Are you with me lads?" And the inebriated crew would heartily reply, "Aye!"

3- The Northernmost Coquito

This treasured Reyes family recipe was inherited from a close family friend and was transported all the way from Puerto Rico to Maine. It was shared between families over many Christmas celebrations. Urban legend has it that this coquito recipe has traveled further north than any other in the world.

4- El Jefe Asombroso (The Amazing Boss)

While traversing the wild Atlantic Ocean to the free world in the late 1860's the roots of my family lineage were overcome by a storm of epic proportions. There were stories passed that it may have been the very Kraken itself that caused the sea's to open up and reverse the gulf-stream. In doing so, the ship titled "NMS Jefe Asombroso" was pulled off route and washed up on the shores of Ponce, Puerto Rico. Upon landing, the crew was greeted by a gentleman who offered to purchase items left onboard the vessel to allow for proper repairs for the final journey.

With the only item of any value being the still onboard which was intended to establish a liquor business in America, the family made the deal to ensure a prosperous future. While my family awaited repairs to the vessel, the newly established distiller capitalized on the prevalent sugar cane of the island to produce a unique style of Rum with some aid of our distilling history. Once repairs were completed and a departure date set for 27 December 1866, my great, great grandmother created a coconut eggnog. This of course was a huge success at the party and the rest is history.

**Portions of this story may be exaggerated (All of it)*

5- Navidades Caribe (Caribbean Christmas)

As we all know, Navidades or "Christmas" is a huge holiday on the island of Puerto Rico. It is a time to feast and spend time together with family, sing and dance. The "Coquito" is basically Puertorrican Eggnog. The main difference is that we make ours with Coconut! This recipe is a mixture of my grandma's and my aunt's. Every time I drink it, it just brings me home. I hope you guys enjoy this as much as I do and get a little taste of the Caribbean Holidays!

6- The AmigoFoods Special

This traditional Coquito recipe came from Amigofoods.com. I learned a lot about Puerto Rican cooking while researching coquito recipes.

7- El Coquito Moderno (The Modern Coquito)

This unique recipe is the result of years of experimentation and refining. After many iterations, this culinary delight was perfected by combining the best parts of friend and family recipes. This Coquito fuses the old Island traditions with a modern twist – my favorite whiskey. I’ve added a little of my own personal preference to create the perfect blend of flavor so that I can share with others.

8- Margarita’s Coquito

This special coquito recipe was created by my grandmother, Margarita. She shared it with my family and we make it every year for celebrations and holidays.

9- Coquito de Monchi (Grandma Monchi’s Coquito)

For decades, Coquito connoisseurs have travelled to the Adjuntas Mountains in the Ponce region of Puerto Rico to try to steal my abuelita, Monchi’s, coveted Coquito recipe. Although many have attempted, none have succeeded. During Hurricane Maria, a majority of the island evacuated, but Monchi stayed behind to ride out the storm, knowing that she had to protect her secret recipe.

Today is the first time this recipe has been brought to the mainland. Monchi doesn’t share her recipe with anyone, but she made an exception for her favorite grandchild for today’s Block Party.

10- Quieres Ser Mi Valentin? (Will you be my Valentine?)

This exceptional Coquito recipe has been used in proposals across the island of Puerto Rico. As one romantic story goes, a young Coast Guardsman got on one knee and presented a bottle to his bride to be. He asked her “Quieres ser mi Valentin” which translates to “Will you be my Valentine.” Of course, she said yes.

This exact Coquito recipe is the same one that was used in that proposal.