

Orange Vanilla Coke- A New Take on an American Classic

Though the original recipe lies deep in a locked vault in Atlanta's World of Coca-Cola building, the new Orange Vanilla Coke has us clicking our tongues as we try to decipher the newness of this drink.

Cokey? Yes, very. This new flavor tastes quite a bit like...Coke.

And that's a good thing. The Coca-Cola Company's trial of a new, completely reformulated Coke showed massive backlash in 1985, proving that fans have a dedication (and perhaps addiction) to the OG flavor.

But there is a newness in this coke's tang, a nostalgic but adventurous sweetness that lies just under the carbonation but sticks to the roof of the mouth.

Think summer, the lake, maybe a long afternoon of swimming and sunshine. Your mom passes you an orange creamsicle bar from the freezer in the family RV. Except this time, its liquid.

Too mushy? Sorry, let's try another sip.

It's sweet. The original recipe's orange, cinnamon, nutmeg, and vanilla drips are still detectable. There's a new sheriff in this town, though. *Orange Vanilla!* This isn't the neroli flavor, a bitter orange blossom taste in regular and Diet Coke. The new taste has a sweet, orange popsicle like flavor that is nothing like the tang of orange juice but also not quite as orangey as Fanta.

The vanilla flavor seems to be the grounding factor in the drink, as the original vanilla-caramel scent still wafts from the lip of the can when the tab is popped. The newness, though, is the combo of the original vanilla with the new, creamy orange taste.

No, it's not out of this world. Astronauts on board the space shuttle Discovery in 1995 enjoyed the OG coke flavor, but the new Orange Vanilla flavor doesn't quite reach the moon. The first few sips are *good*, especially if you love coke. Your tastes buds will absolutely question themselves, though. Is what I'm tasting actually a new flavor? Well, yes, there's a stronger hint of vanilla and a definite creamsicle thickness to the taste. But it is *a lot* like regular coke.

This new flavor doesn't disappoint, but it also doesn't quite change the game for coke in a competitive market. Certainly something to try, the Orange Vanilla flavor may spark just enough nostalgia in its recipe to have Coke lovers around the world coming back for more.