

DUBONNET

By Tenniel Tatsch Photography by Joseph Burgess

As I sit down for a cocktail after work at Billy Crews, I find myself searching for a good drink. Something to get my mind off the day's stress. Something to prepare myself for the next day's ventures. A Cosmopolitan comes to mind, but an added twist would be nice. The bartender suggests a Dubonnet Cosmopolitan. As she brings the rich, ruby colored drink over my way, I notice it's in a seductive glass. My anticipation heightens. I take the first sip; it's light and refreshing. A Dubonnet Cosmopolitan is just what my evening called for.



Dubonnet is a French wine-based aperitif, born in Paris in 1846. Dubonnet results from the alliance of wines from the south of France and the comparable wines from Napa Valley in California, with spices and plants matured over several years. Its production relies on 150 years of precious savoir-faire.

Dubonnet is available in two styles, Dubonnet Blanc and Dubonnet Rouge, which is what my wonderful cosmopolitan was made with. Besides the Cosmopolitan, Dubonnet can be served many different ways: tall with soda and lemon, or chilled with gin or vodka as a cocktail-hour martini. As an aperitif, it can be as light as a glass of wine or as sexy as a Cosmopolitan.

Shannon Phillips' bartending expertise certainly made my evening more enjoyable. She has been tending bar at Billy Crews for six years now, and has many regulars. "You can ask me if I know someone by giving me their name," says Shannon, "and I may know them, but if you tell me what they drink I will know exactly the person your talking about." I guess I will be known as the Dubonnet Cosmopolitan.

Dubonnet Cosmopolitan

1 oz. Vodka
¾ oz. Dubonnet Rouge
¾ oz. Triple Sec
2 oz. Cranberry Juice
Splash of lime juice

Shake with cracked ice,
 strain into a cocktail glass,
 garnish with a lime twist.



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