



Perk Up!

September 29 Is International Coffee Day!

(September 26, 2019) -- The public relations business requires a substantial amount of energy and enthusiasm, so most members of the team at [Mindy Bianca Public Relations](#) lean (heavily) on coffee for some added support to get us through the long days and even longer nights. (One member of our team prefers tea, so you'll hear from her around June 10, National Tea Day.) But back to the beans ...

On our travels to our client destinations, we like to refuel at local coffee shops. In honor of **International Coffee Day**, which is this Sunday, September 29, here's a list of some of our favorite places for a coffee break. We hope you'll come and share a cup of joe with us sometime, because all these client destinations happily welcome media guests!

[Southern Shores Coffee](#)

Gulf Shores, Alabama

It all started with soccer, if you can believe it. This family-run coffee company was the brainchild of parents who tried out different coffee shops as they traveled to their kids' games. Then as they took family vacations around the country and overseas, they tried coffees and coffee beans from everywhere. Their hobby became a passion, and that passion became a business. Southern Shores sources, roasts and flavors Fair Trade beans on site and in very small batches to enhance flavors. A go-to flavor that you won't find anywhere else is "Bushwacker," named for Gulf Shores' favorite cocktail. (If you haven't tried that, you must. It's a mixture of light and dark rums, coffee liqueur, and vanilla ice cream. Yum!) The coffee is alcohol-free, but it features cream of coconut and other flavors mixed with chocolate undertones. The result is an excellent – and strong – cup of coffee.

[Brew HaHa!](#)

Wilmington, Delaware

Born from a vision while visiting a small countryside town in Italy, Brew HaHa! was created to provide a warm and friendly gathering place, a marriage of Italian quality and down-home Delaware friendly. Coffee lovers get a boutique experience, where every drink is special and individualized attention is paid every step of the way. The baristas know your name *and* that of the friend, neighbor or colleague you're there to meet ... and leaving is like trying to say goodnight at a family gathering. Brew HaHa! has been named Best of Delaware 23 years in a row. Though each shop is small and intimate, there are multiple locations throughout the city and its suburbs.

[Abita Roasting Co.](#)

Madisonville, Louisiana, with a sister location in Covington

This lovely and scenic spot on the Tchefuncte River in Madisonville is in a historic “Coquille Cottage,” a restored Creole cottage with sweeping views of the river and a wraparound porch. The town of Madisonville was originally named “Cokie” by French settlers in reference to the abundance of shells in the area, and today the Abita Roasting Company is known as “Madisonville’s living room.” Abita Roasting Company has been hand-roasting beans in St. Tammany Parish since 2006. Many local restaurants, including the award-winning Oxlot 9, have their own blend crafted by the coffee company. Popular reserve blends include Long Branch and Princess Abita, both referencing the quirky town of Abita’s history.

[Clatter Coffee](#)

Frostburg, Maryland

Clatter is a truly special coffee shop, built on the premise of “espresso, specialty drinks, and food lovingly made in a welcoming atmosphere.” With emphasis on quality, Clatter sources its coffee from two local roasteries, Little Amps in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and Basecamp Coffee Company in neighboring Cumberland, Maryland. Not only is the product top-quality, but so is the process, which is sustained by the staff’s frequent field trips to the roasteries to learn best practices for preparing the coffee. Set in the college town that’s home to Frostburg University, Clatter features weekly live music performed by touring artists as well as community and college artists.

[Stagecoach Coffee](#)

Cooperstown, New York

This family-operated coffee roastery and espresso bar started in Cooperstown and later opened a second location in Albany. It’s located just steps away from the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, and it’s a home run in our book. (The MBPR staff hits Stagecoach at least once a day when we’re in town, and we have the full punch-cards to prove it!) The shop smells delicious. They roast their Arabica beans in the back of the store and in small batches, so there’s usually something in the works. In addition to the full range of coffee drinks, Stagecoach also has an ice cream shop, fresh baked goods, and soups, salads and sandwiches. Visit any time and you’ll see locals and visitors alike chatting, reading books or newspapers, or working on their laptops. (Psst ... The wifi password is “freshroastedcoffee.”)

[eCity Java](#)

Anderson, South Carolina

This café got its name because Anderson is nicknamed “Electric City,” and it adds its own special jolt to our day. eCity Java has been in downtown in Anderson since 1999. Located in the historic Sullivan building, this hometown coffee shop is a premiere hot spot for Anderson University students as well as businesspeople in the downtown area. They’ve served more than one million cups of coffee and have figured out a way to bring big-city coffee tastes to a small-town setting.

[Hopscotch Coffee Café](#)

Winchester, Virginia

Owner Nate Rhodes is a Winchester native who started a coffee bar in the town's popular Bonnie Blue Bakery and Southern Market. He quickly outgrew the space and opened a standalone in an old converted mechanic's garage with his friend, who also roasted coffee. Nate combined his love of coffee and records, and his shop now offers a curated selection of LP records for sale. His friend's roasting business was so successful, he soon had to move out and now runs Lone Oak Coffee Roasters, a nationally award-winning roaster, just down the street.

Blue Coffee Café at [Sunset at the Palms Resort](#)

Negril, Jamaica

Here's what makes our list an international one: Jamaica's famed Blue Mountain coffee. It's considered among the best in the world, and for good reason. Grown at the highest altitudes on the island and in a region that's cooler than the rest of this Caribbean nation, these coffee beans are also rooted in a special soil that has just the right blend of "stuff" (it's way too scientific to get into here) to make them taste ... well, amazing. Others think of rum when they think of Jamaica; we think of coffee. The café at our client resort, Sunset at the Palms, is a great place to get a coffee-infused alcoholic beverage or a cup to start – or end – the day. But trust us on this: Ask for an iced coffee made with sweetened condensed milk, which is a Jamaican specialty. They'll know MBPR sent you.

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