



# LOCAL BUZZ

What's brewing in Athens coffee shops

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PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOEL PRINCE

**S**willing down a cup of joe is a vital element of the morning routines of many. While coffee brings sleep-deprived humans to life, the sale of the coffee bean crop is the living breath of many impoverished South American economies—but when it's not fairly traded, its sale can have crushing effects on farmers. Athens has no shortage of cafes, and the town's spread of coffee shops ensures that there's always a caffeine fix within walking distance. We rounded up seven coffee shops and sized them up in terms of price, ambiance and bean source. And, as seasoned café dwellers will tell you, different coffee shops are suited for different activities. From late-night homework, meetings with professors or going on a first date, choosing the right cafe setting is key.

## DONKEY COFFEE



17 ½ W. Washington St.

**Price:** \$1.85/\$2.10

**Ambiance:** Donkey's vibe is iconic of all that is Athens.

**Origin of Coffee:** Dean's Beans: a 100 percent organic, fair trade and kosher coffee wholesaler.

**The Crowd:** The cool, the hip and the environmentally conscious hang here.

**When to go:** The dim lighting, nooks and intimate atmosphere make Donkey an ideal locale for a date.