

Coffee in Brno

Brno's love affair with the café goes way back. In fact, the nation's first ever café was opened here in the Moravian capital, in 1702 by the Turk Ahmet. Since that time, people's lives have undergone plenty of changes, one being a transformation in the taste of coffee and the methods used to prepare it. Nonetheless, the relationship of the city and the desire of Brnoers to while away time in cafés has remained the same.

After travelling through a large part of Europe and visiting hundreds of all kinds of cafés across the continent, I can say – hand on heart – that you can find some of Europe's very best in Brno. Brno's baristas are scooping up awards at international competitions, while the design concepts for cafés are pulling in visitors from all over the country and beyond. Blossoming local roasteries are in turn creating a fertile space for new businesses who put coffee front and centre.

And yet the task remains to pick out those places that are the 'real thing'. Which of these establishments combine a veneration for specialty coffee and the desire to share its story with their customers. These are

the types of cafés you'll find in this guide. Whether you want to head somewhere within the industrial surrounds of an office complex or nestled inside an elegant 19th century building, or perhaps advantageously situated close to a park, you can always be sure of getting a superbly prepared coffee in attractive surrounds, and something delicious on which to nibble as a bonus.

With a heavy heart, I finally chose just sixteen cafés from the over sixty we have listed in our Brno guide. I focused mainly on businesses close to the city centre. For this reason many superb cafés have been omitted. Which is why I invite you to download our mobile app European Coffee Trip, in which you can discover our additional top café tips – and not just in Brno, but all over Europe. The app is free to download at Apple Store or Google Play.

Aleš Pospíšil

Creator of the magazine and mobile app European Coffee Trip

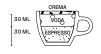


You can enjoy coffee not only at cafes but also in stylish Brno porcelain. Available at the infocentres TIC BRNO or online at www.darkyzbrna.cz.

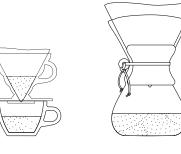


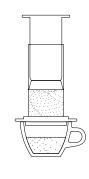
ALTERNATIVE COFFEE BREWING











ESPRESSO

ESPRESSO LUNGO

CAPPUCCINO

CHEMEX

V60

AEROPRESS





Monogram Espresso Bar was set up by its owner and head barista Adam Neubauer inside a historic building on Kapucínské náměstí, thereby creating one link in the barrage of cafés that greet you as you arrive at the main railway station. This simply and cleanly designed café, dominated by light-coloured wood and polished concrete, allows you to peer beneath the bonnet of the barista's art. Sit up at the bar, or better

still behind it, and watch the precise process of making coffee. There are always two coffee mills at the ready, with a choice of coffees roasted by Adam himself under the Monogram brand, or from excellent guest roasteries from across Europe. Whether you order an espresso, cappuccino, or cortado, you can be sure to enjoy your coffee in a pleasant and friendly space.

monogramespressobar



THE ROSES COFFEE&STORE
BENEŠOVA 605/48

The Roses is an espresso bar and coffee store located inside the building of the Grandhotel Brno on Benešová Street. Its position predestines it to be one of the first coffee stops on Brno's coffee tour, and let me add – this place sets the bar very high. The Růžička brothers are the guys behind The Roses, and despite their tender age they're already experienced baristas, gathering up awards at home

and abroad. Here, the traditional range of coffees is expanded to include a selection of exclusive coffees – often competition editions – that you can have prepared as espressos or filtered coffee. At The Roses you can buy perhaps the biggest assortment of packeted coffee from roasters in the Czech Republic and abroad.

theroses_coffee_store



REBELBEAN VLNĚNA PŘÍZOVA 5

Close to the main train station in the Vlněna office complex, the team behind the Brno roasters Rebelbean have built their flagship café. Gleaming with metallic features and wooden surfaces, the industrial interior gestures to the entire quarter's history. Its size ranks it amongst Brno's biggest coffee establishments, giving you plenty of opportunities to find your own secluded nook in which to work or relax. The space

is dominated by a long bar, where you can order your coffees, soft drinks, and also cakes and soups. They're not afraid to experiment with coffee at Rebelbean, and alongside the usual items you'll also find coffee tasting sets, drinks made from cascara, nitro coffee, and interesting seasonal drinks.

rebelbean_vlnena



DEZERTÍNA NOVOBRANSKÁ 16

Dezertína is a small espresso bar and patisserie on Novobranská Street where you won't be able to sit, but where you can certainly make life a lot sweeter. Dezertína, otherwise known as Zuzana Zuzáková, has long been baking her cakes and desserts to order, as well as participating in the popular street food project Būcheck. But in 2022 it was time to take the plunge and open her own business. Although sweet pastries like

croissants, donuts, brownies and gateaux take pride of place, well prepared coffee from select Czech roasting houses plays a wonderful second fiddle.

dezertina



BUCHTA C ZELNÝ TRH 293/10

As the name suggests, Buchta C is the third space occupied by the café of Tomáš Niederlé and his partner Kateřina Olivová. The first Buchta opened in the Scottish city of Glasgow, the second, following a Brno homecoming, was close to Lužánky Park, while the latest can be found at the gastro space Platz on the Vegetable Market. Here, Buchta wonderfully complements the neighbouring bistros, and offers a spot to

recharge batteries while exploring Brno. In this small espresso bar you're offered a broad choice of coffee drinks, often with a supporting cast of seasonal specialities. Buchta C works with a large number of leading European roasters, so you're greeted with a wee surprise on every visit. One thing you can always rely on, though, is the range of gluten free desserts (not just cakes) and a wide array of milk alternatives.

buchta_c_entrum



DAFE MITTE PANSKÁ 7

Cafe Mitte is a constant in Brno's constellation of specialty coffee, and despite its move, after many years, to a few doors down on Panská Sreet, its magic has not worn off. The relocation has rewarded the old 'Little Mitte' more room for guests, better facilities, and even access to the block's inner yard, where you can relax over a coffee away from the clamour of city. As time has passed, Mitte have begun to do

their own roasting, and in the café you can find coffee in all its diverse forms – from espressos and cappuccinos, through to filtered coffees and coffee cocktails. Added to which, you can sample desserts from their own patisserie, or take home a packet of coffee. Besides the city centre, Mitte now has branches on Mendlovo Square, Písečník, and at the hospital in Bohunice.

mittebrno



COFFEE FUSION JÁNSKÁ 460/25

A stone's throw from Malinovského Square, on Jánská Street, don't pass by Coffee Fusion. The café and the main barista Michal Kocman have created an establishment whose interiors hark back to the traditions of First Republic cafés, but whose service and quality of coffee fully meet the highest demands of the modern coffee drinker. You can choose from two types of coffee for espresso, and several coffees for filtered coffee. In

summer you can enjoy sitting outside, and don't forget their cold drip coffee, which they prepare here overnight in limited quantities. The small café team and loyal band of regulars create a pleasant and peaceful atmosphere for discovering the secrets of the bean. When you drop in at Coffee Fusion, make sure you have some cash in your wallet – it's one of the few boutique coffee shops that don't accept card payment.

o coffeefusionbrno



V MELOUNOVÉM CUKRU FRANTIŠKÁNSKÁ 494/17

This café can be found tucked away on a non-descript street running perpendicular to Josefská Street. This remarkable world, inspired by Richard Brautigan's novel In Watermelon Sugar (which gives the café its name) is flooded with the smells of fresh coffee and fantastic cakes. Great store is placed by these latter creations, making each visit a mini-adventure of discovering new tastes. You can pick from two

types of coffee, each produced by leading European roasters, and there's more to choose from than your classic espresso, cappuccino or filtered coffee: whether winter or summer, imaginative seasonal drinks will liven up your stay.

vmelounovemcukru



CAFÉ PLACZEK MINORITSKÁ 470/4

Right in the very centre of Brno, on Minoritská Street, in a building erected in 1928, was established Café Placzek. Its name harkens to Brno's tradition of family-run enterprises, while its interior and the materials it uses reflect the first half of the twentieth century. Most of the time you'll be offered coffee from the Liberec roastery Nordbeans, whether it's their Arabik blend for espresso, or a seasonal offer of single-origin coffees

for a filtered cuppa. Café Placzek has its own kitchen, so don't let breakfast go unheeded, nor should you ignore the homemade cakes and desserts, sandwiches or salads.

cafeplaczek



SKØG URBAN HUB DOMINIKÁNSKÉ NÁM. 187/5

In Norwegian, SKØG means 'forest', and inspiration from Nordic design and lifestyle has given birth to this spacious café on Dominikánské Square. Stepping over the threshold and entering deeper inside, you're greeted by high ceilings, white walls, and the clickety-clack of wooden floorboards. Close co-operation with the roastery Rusty Nails Coffee Roasters, now based in Prague, means being able to

sample coffees imported from all around the globe, and experienced staff are happy to help guide you to what you might fancy. Besides coffee, at SKØG you can get a vegan breakfast, lunch or dessert. Over the course of the day, and especially after sundown, the café becomes a lively bar, where you can order wine, beer or a cocktail from the local barman.

skog.brno



PODNIK
PEROUTKOVÁ 290/5

Podnik is a spacious café, nestled in an alley between Šilingrovo Square and Vegetable Market, where you can drop by every weekday for an excellent breakfast and a morning coffee. Here you'll find a varied choice of coffees from Czech and international roasteries, which they prepare for you as espressos as well as filtered coffees. Over the course of the day, Podnik gradually metamorphosises into a bar, where the

coffee menu is joined by a large selection of gins and wines. The café interior is often enlivened with photographic exhibitions and paintings by up-and-coming artists.

www.podnikcafebar.cz



VEČERKA PEKAŘSKÁ 382/9

The word 'večerka' – the traditional Czech name for an often Vietnamese-run, late-opening corner shop – doesn't quite fit the bill here. Instead, we get a stylish enterprise, half-café, half-bistro, in which there's no lack of creativity and the stress is on quality. You'll find the place in the upper stretch of Pekařská Street, a few steps down from Šilingrovo Square. Whatever the time of day, Večerka's always worth

a visit: morning for coffee (most often from the Berlin roasters The Barn) and a freshly baked cinnamon swirl, at noon for a spot of lunch and a homemade coffee kombucha, and later in the evening to enjoy a glass of natural wine. Whilst honouring their Asian roots, these Vietnamese owners want to present them in a contemporary way, one that comes naturally to them in this moment.

f vecerkabrno



JAGA ŽEROTÍNOVO NÁM. 533/6

JAGA is a spacious design café situated in the left wing of the Břetislav Bakala Hall on Žerotínovo Square. You can look forward to specialty coffee from Czech roasteries and a rich seasonal offer of vegetarian and vegan breakfasts and lunches. The interior is emblazoned with neon signs, sculptural graphic elements, light tubes across the ceiling, and corrugated sheet metal around the bar. JAGA is god's gift for freelance

workers, who spend hours behind their screens around a shared table, fuelled on coffee and the sunbeams streaming into the establishment through the large shopfront window.

cafe_jaga



MILADY KAFFEE TŘ. KPT. JAROŠE 1921/2A

Milady is a small, lively café close to the city centre on the avenue třída Kpt. Jaroše, where you can drop in for some good coffee and a bite of cake from Monday through Sunday. Most often you'll be served coffee supplied by Copenhagen's Coffee Collective or Brno's Industra Coffee. Flowers, neon lights, a concrete bar, metal benches, scuffed walls and expressive music that's the atmosphere you'll find at Milady

kaffee. In the summer months it spreads onto the street outside, where it becomes a place to meet the whole neighbourhood.

miladykaffee



KAFE FRIEDRICH SMETANOVA 763/45

Kafe Friedrich is a small, cosy café on Smetanova Street, not too far from Lužánky Park. Within its modest confines, Café owner Zuzana Bartoněk has created a simple design space with a striking corner-set bar decorated in geometric shapes. At Kafe Friedrich you can try coffee from the Danish roaster La Cabra, and the café's own range of sweet and savoury treats. Most popular are the local cinnamon

whirls. And if you're visiting in the summer months, check out their refreshing espresso tonic, for which they mix and can their own amusingly named product Tonik.

kafefriedrich



PUNKT.
BAYEROVA 577/7

Punkt. is a neighbourhood café on Bayerova Street, a short walk from Lužánky Park. In their café, Klára Švandová and Martin Dutkiewič have created a cosy space humming with life from the crack of dawn through to late night, with the clientele gradually shifting to wine and beer as the day wears on. You can sample coffees from select Czech roasteries and, more recently, from their own 'punktího kafe' products.

Tradition has it that coffee is accompanied with something sweet, which brings us to another strength of Punkt., whose homemade assortment of cakes and desserts draws back customers and friends for regular visits.

punkt.cafe

GOTOBRNO.cz

south moravian region

BRN≣NSKO



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www.ticbrno.cz

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