



Coffee Origins

From Ethiopia to The Americas

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Whether it be a cappuccino in the morning or an après-lunch espresso, this drink has come a long way since its initial cultivation in 9th century Ethiopian highlands. In the 15th century in the Middle East, coffee houses were lively gathering spaces for the “wise” and often very caffeinated scholars. A few decades later, coffee was smuggled into southern India, a vast land perfect for its cultivation. Later in 1517, the energizing drink reached Rome, where it was widely accepted and even baptized by the Pope.

Coffee Haciendas

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The Caribbean, 1700s

It wasn't until the early 1700s that coffee made its way to the Caribbean. After many failed attempts to grow the bean in colder climates, European travelers were pleasantly surprised to find the cooler mountain air of tropical lands such as Puerto Rico yielded copious amounts of the bean. With a growing demand, more land owners devoted their Haciendas to the planting, cultivation, and roasting of coffee. This systematic approach allowed farmers to produce a higher quality product, one that would become increasingly more sought after around the world.



Coffee as an Industry

est. 1987

3

Over the last 30 years, coffee shops have popularized the drink and have made it a commodity many. Shops like Starbucks Coffee, founded in 1987 in Seattle, strive to combine the social aspect of French cafes with the wide-reach of American food suppliers. To counteract the dissemination of a “generally good brew”, farmers are looking to create specialized and unique berries that, when roasted and brewed, yield spectacular cups of coffee. Today, coffee is seen as an integral part of our daily life, one that will very likely continue to grow.



*Dorado Beach
a Ritz Carlton Reserve*

An Hacienda Discovery Experience

Hacienda Muñoz in San Lorenzo, PR

Coffee has a long and winding history within Caribbean culture. With over three centuries of experience, Puerto Rican coffee has caught the eyes of millions across the globe. Visit the charming Hacienda Munoz in San Lorenzo, a small town in the heart of the Island. Take a guided tour of the plantation, sample local breakfast pastries, and enjoy a tasting of various brews from a series of light, medium, and dark roasts (color swatches below)! Learn about the rich history of one of the most celebrated distinctions of Puerto Rico in one of the best kept secrets in the Island.

Duration: 6 hours, including 1 hour 30 minutes travel time each way

Price: \$690 up to 5 people, \$890 up to 11 people

Included: Luxury roundtrip transportation, pastries and coffee tasting, private tour and beverages on board.



coffee haciendas along the "Cordillera Central"

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