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## Latin America

# National Coffee Day: 10 Latin American Coffees You Need To Try!



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By Maria G. Valdez | Sep 28 2017, 03:10PM EDT



It's National Coffee Day and we're celebrating with the best coffees from Latin America!  
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**National Coffee Day** is observed on September 29 each year. For Latinos, coffee is a big part of our lives, since it can grow in most of our countries and ever since we were little, we always saw our parents sip on their "cup of Juan" and enjoy it like it is a gift from God. Once we became adults, we realized the incredible taste of this "magic bean" and



According to [National Day Calendar](#), the earliest credible evidence of either coffee drinking or the knowledge of the coffee tree appears in the middle of the 15th century in the SUFI monasteries around Mokha in Yemen. It was here where coffee seeds were first roasted and brewed, similarly to how it is prepared today. Yemeni traders brought coffee back to their homeland from Ethiopia and began to cultivate the seed.

## [Coffee in Latin America:](#)

It is believed that **Gabriel de Clieu** brought coffee seedlings to Martinique in the Caribbean circa 1720. Those sprouts flourished and 50 years later there were 18,680 coffee trees in Martinique enabling the spread of coffee cultivation to Saint-Domingue (Haiti), Mexico and other islands of the Caribbean. The French territory of Saint-Domingue, saw coffee cultivated from 1734, and by 1788 it supplied half the world's coffee.

Circa 1727, the King of Portugal sent **Francisco de Melo Palheta** to French Guiana to obtain coffee seeds to become a part of the coffee market. Francisco initially had difficulty obtaining these seeds, but he captivated the French Governor's wife and she sent him enough seeds and shoots to commence the coffee industry of Brazil, however, its cultivation did not gather momentum until independence in 1822. After this time, massive tracts of rainforest were cleared first from the vicinity of Rio and later São Paulo for coffee plantations.

Brazil dominated world production, exporting more coffee than the rest of the world combined, from 1850 to 1950. The period since 1950 saw the widening of the playing field due to the emergence of several other major producers, most notably Colombia, Ivory Coast, Ethiopia, and, most recently, Vietnam, which overtook Colombia and became the second-largest producer in 1999 and reached 15% market share by 2011.

We've gathered here some of the best brands in the different Latin American countries. Scroll down and let us know which ones you've tried and which ones we missed!

**COSTA RICA:** Cafe Britt



**CUBA:** Cafe Pilon



**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:** Cafe Santo Domingo



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**HONDURAS:** Cafe Welchez



**PUERTO RICO:** Cafe Yaucono



**MEXICO:** Cielito Querido



**GUATEMALA:** El Injerto Coffee





COLOMBIA: Juan Valdez Cafe



**EI SALVADOR:** Macchiato



**BRAZIL:** Cafe Pilão

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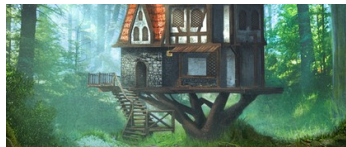
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## Maria G. Valdez



Maria was born and raised in Dominican Republic, where she began her career in journalism covering human interest stories, entertainment, beauty and wellness for a national magazine. She moved to New York City to study Musical Theatre, but went back to journalism after graduating in an attempt of becoming the Latina Carrie Bradshaw. She has an unhealthy obsession with JLo and claims to be Sofia Vergara's long-lost daughter, and has tried a crazy amount of treatments to keep looking young. She became a Zumba instructor for fun.

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