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Best Richmond Coffee Shops

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Best Richmond Coffee Shops

8:15 @ Boatwright will always hold a special place in the heart of every Richmond student, but sometimes you just need something different. So when you feel like something beyond your morning mocha, here are five coffee shops to check out in town.

BY BEN PANKO

A wide selection of fresh, unground beans is available at Rostov's Coffee & Tea on West Main Street.
10 Italian Café - 3200 West Cary Street (9 minutes)

This Carytown café’s quality comes in large part from its authenticity - it is owned and operated by an Italian immigrant with a passion for coffee and cuisine. Those used to the light fare of Starbucks will find a variety of delicious paninis and other Italian dishes to choose from, not to mention quality coffee and espresso drinks. Its large, streetside patio is the perfect place to grab a drink and rest your heels during a Carytown shopping excursion. **Good for: People watching, paninis, hearing Italian accents.**

Café Caturra - 5811 Grove Avenue (3 minutes)

Just up the road from campus, Café Caturra blends a classy, yet comfortable atmosphere with an excellent menu and coffee selection. From salads to sliders, there is something for everyone to get with their drink, and a variety of couches and armchairs make it a relaxing place to sit and talk or do a bit of reading. And when coffee is not cutting it, Café Caturra also has a full menu of wine and beer selections. **Good for: Meeting a friend, taking parents out.**

Lamplighter Roasting Company - 116 South Addison Street (12 minutes)

Independent coffee shops often get unfairly stereotyped as hipster havens, but Lamplighter is the closest thing to a Brooklyn café you will find in RVA. Locally roasted coffee, cold drinks in glass milk jugs, freshly made pastries and yes, bicycle courier service - it is all here. As one of Richmond’s most popular coffee shops, it might be too busy to study in, but its food and drink are worth the hype. **Good for: Extremely strong coffee, Portlandia references.**

Rostov’s Coffee & Tea - 1618 West Main Street (15 minutes)

This Richmond institution is celebrating its 35th year of roasting, brewing and selling coffee, and its longevity is well-deserved. With more coffee flavors and accessories than most people can imagine, Rostov’s is the place to go for whole bean and ground coffee and all kinds of tea. Feel free to pick up a cup at the shop’s coffee and espresso bar too. **Good for: Seeing a vintage roaster in action, supporting a family business.**

Crossroads Coffee & Ice Cream - 3600 Forest Hill Avenue (15 minutes)

Over the James and a few miles down Forest Hill Avenue lies this cute coffee shop that dishes up ice cream, milkshakes, and some amazing breakfast treats. Most evenings, Crossroads also plays host to a variety of musical acts, including some Richmond adjunct music professors. Though it is a bit out of the way and can sometimes get crowded, Crossroads is worth the drive. **Good for: Music, feeling cozy.**

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