

THE COFFEE CRAZE

Ranking Hamilton County's most beloved coffee shops

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With the end of the school year and thus final exams steadily approaching, many students at NHS are left to cram an entire year's worth of learning into two weeks. Naturally, this is indubitably the most stressful and time-consuming portion of the school year for many; in fact, you can be sure a majority of students have already started consuming an unnatural amount of caffeinated beverages in hopes they'll be able to fight off the urge to sleep, while forcing themselves to re-learn every single topic their teachers covered.

Coming from two fellow-students, we understand you — we know how difficult this time is for everyone. And luckily for you, we have done all of the hard work in ensuring that you get arguably the best beverage to help you stay afloat during this exam season: coffee. We have visited more coffee shops than an average person would probably like to, but nonetheless, we are eager to recommend what we consider to be the best coffee shops located in Hamilton County. Below, are our reviews of six coffee shops and our rankings based upon their taste and appearance from one to five coffee beans.

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BICA CAFÉ

Although the overall aesthetic of Bica cafe is appreciated, it simply does not make up for their coffee. We recognize that Bica Cafe does not specifically specialize in coffee and instead is more dedicated to bringing Portuguese and Italian food, as well as an assortment of baked goods, to the heart of Noblesville. That said, if you're looking for a modern and welcoming atmosphere to study, Bica may interest you; however, if you're looking for a good ol' cup of Joe, Bica may not be the place for you.



CICERO COFFEE COMPANY

Walking into Cicero Coffee Company feels as if you're entering a cozy home-style diner straight from the '70s. This atmosphere is a pleasant break from the minimalist, modern feel many restaurants yearn to create today. Despite it being called Cicero Coffee Company, the coffee options — which were not even listed on the menu — were nothing to obsess over. However, if you're looking for a homely place to grab a quick bite to eat while you cram some studying in, Cicero Coffee Company is just what you're looking for.

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DARK SIDE COFFEE HOUSE

The coffee at Cicero's Dark Side was neither great nor bad — it was a happy medium. The coffee itself was nothing too unique, you could probably get a similar tasting drink at Starbucks. The downfall of this shop was, without a doubt, its size. Although there are places to sit and enjoy your beverage while you work, it's quite small which makes for a rather distracting environment.





HONORABLE MENTION: NOBLE COFFEE & TEA

Don't worry, non-coffee drinkers -- here's a drink that will not fail in refreshing you during your extensive hours of studying: Noble Coffee & Tea's raspberry iced tea is the perfect beverage to accompany you in your studying -- it's not too strong, but it's very rejuvenating. Moreover, Noble offers a wide variety of seating options and a comfortable ambience to keep you comfortable while you work.



ROSE & LOIS

Out of all of the coffee shops we visited, Rose & Lois in Carmel was the only one to have a drive-thru, which can be very helpful when you want to grab a quick cup on your way to school. However, if you have the time to go inside, you'll quickly find that it's relatively small but nonetheless welcoming. As for the coffee, it's definitely on the stronger side, so if you like your coffee sweeter, Rose & Lois won't quite satisfy you. Still, Rose & Lois makes up for their lack of space with colorful decorations and a kind staff.

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REMNANT COFFEE SHOP



Remnant Coffee Shop is an absolute hidden gem of Arcadia. It has everything a student needs in order to study: comfortable seating, charging stations, individual pods to sit in for studying, and a spacious area to work in. The coffee, despite being a bit on the stronger side, was very good and a reasonable price. All things considered, this is the perfect place to go to for working without distraction.



JAVA HOUSE COFFEE BAR

Coming in hot and putting every other coffee shop to shame is none other than Carmel's Java House Coffee Bar. Although it's a bit on the more expensive side, it is completely and totally worth it. Java House's coffee is perfect for any and every occasion, whether that be starting off your morning or crunching in some late-night studying. But the coffee isn't the only redeeming quality of Java House -- the modern but cozy atmosphere proves to be a very pleasant place to lounge.

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