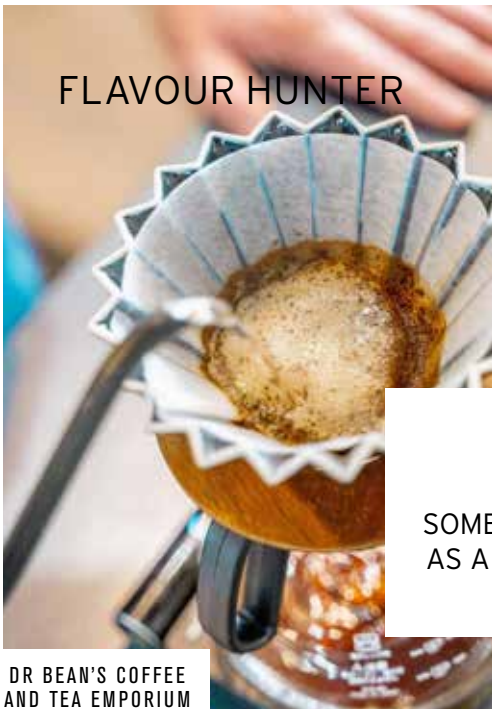
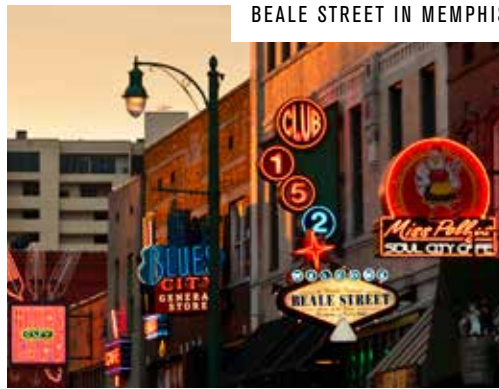


FLAVOUR HUNTER



DR BEAN'S COFFEE AND TEA EMPORIUM

BEALE STREET IN MEMPHIS



BARISTA AT DR BEAN'S

BEAN COUNTING

SOMETHING'S BREWING IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, AS A GRASS-ROOTS MOVEMENT HARNESSSES THE POWER OF COFFEE TO HELP SOCIETY

Whether this is coffee's fourth or fifth wave is anyone's guess, but one thing's for sure: everyone is focused on getting their caffeine fix ethically. The Southern US city of Memphis has a progressive, socially aware coffee scene that is using the hot stuff as a tool for social change. Rapper and activist Bartholomew Jones is a key trailblazer, serving up beats and beans to cold-brew connoisseurs and hip-hop fans alike, as co-founder of the caffeine, clothing and music brand Cxffeeblack.

The coffee industry has historically exploited people of colour via slavery and colonisation; now Cxffeeblack is on a mission to reclaim java's Black heritage. The indie documentary *Cxffeeblack to Africa* follows the brand's recent visits to Rwanda and Ethiopia, chronicling its all-Black seed-to-cup supply chain. And sales profits are "contributing to education in Ethiopia as well as in the 'hood in Memphis," says Jones. "The idea of reclaiming peace in communities is really powerful to me." In Memphis, Cxffeeblack has opened the Anti-Gentrification Cxffee Club, offering rocket-fuel pour-overs and training for young Black baristas and roasters. A ripple effect has prompted other coffee producers in the city to follow suit, from Memphis Grindhouse supporting literacy in neighbouring schools to Boycott Coffee creating a pop-up space for immigrants and ESL students to practise speaking English over a craft brew. [ZOEY GOTO \[zoeygoto.com\]\(http://zoeygoto.com\)](http://zoeygoto.com); memphisgrindhouse.com; boycottcoffee.com



INSPIRE COMMUNITY CAFE



THE CHECK-IN COFFEE TRUCK



CXFFEEBLACK'S BARTHOLOMEW JONES AND RENATA HENDERSON

MEMPHIS'S OTHER PROGRESSIVE COFFEE SPOTS

Dr Bean's Coffee and Tea Emporium

This hip coffee spot in the South Main district has teamed up with the Memphis Soul Prize, a scholarship programme helping students express themselves through poetry. [@drbeanscoffeeandtea](https://www.instagram.com/drbeanscoffeeandtea)

The Check-In

Keedran Franklin founded his mobile coffee truck to offer the disenfranchised, including ex-cons, a second chance. The emphasis is on creating a nurturing network, with regular men's healing circles. [@thecheckinmem](https://www.instagram.com/thecheckinmem)

Muggin Coffeehouse

The first Black-owned coffeehouse in the Whitehaven area was created after Mary and Ken Olds grew tired of farcical jaunts across state lines into Mississippi in search of a brew. Their social hub, in the heart of the local community, pays it forward with scholarships for Black entrepreneurs. muggincoffeehouse.com

Inspire Community Café

Offering a friendly space for changemakers to connect and caffeinate, this neighbourhood hangout donates 10 per cent of profits to organisations fighting economic and racial injustice. inspirecafememphis.com