1. Coffee dates back to the 9th century.

The exact origin of coffee isn’t known. One popular story is that a young goatherder watched how energic his flock was after chewing on local berries. He brought them home and tried it himself. Many great discoveries are truly accidental!

2. Coffee beans are actually seeds.

Coffee beans are not beans at all. They are the pit – the seed - of a coffee cherry. They are called beans due to their shape and when planted under the right conditions will grow into a plant!

3. The word ‘coffee’ originated from ‘wine’.

The earliest word for the drink was the Arabic “qahwah”, which referred to a type of wine. Qahwa is a short form of qahhwat al-bun which means “wine of the bean.”

4. Around 10 million tons of coffee are produced every year.

According to the International Coffee Organization over 10 million tons of coffee are produced every year. This balances out to 172.8 million bags of coffee! Over 821,250,000,000 cups of coffee are consumed globally each year.

5. Espresso comes from the Italian word for “pressed out”.

Often mispronounced “expresso”, espresso machines date back to the late 1880s. The term doesn’t refer to “fast coffee” it is the method of production of a cup of coffee. Espresso is made by pressing a low amount of boiling water forcibly through ground coffee beans to produce a smaller, thicker drink.

6. People once tried to ban coffee.

Coffee shops or coffee bars due draw a crowd and coffee is quite stimulating and coffee houses attracted free thinkers. For these reasons, it was often banned in many countries. Nowadays, coffee is available almost everywhere in the world!

7. The most expensive coffee in the world is Kopi Luwak.

The most expensive coffee isn’t due to the bean itself but to the way the bean is produced!

Kopi Luwak, originates from Indonesia, and is one of the most sought after at over $330 per pound. It is produced by gathering the beans after palm civets, small animals, eat the coffee cherries and secrete the beans.

Modern companies such as the Black Ivory Coffee from Thailand, are producing coffee that can cost $41.50 a cup! It is produced using elephants in place of the palm civets.

8. The largest ever cup of coffee was over 11 feet tall.

Created in Honduras, the Guinness World Record cup contained over 18,000 litres of coffee. That is enough for over 120,000 regular cups.

9. Finnish people consume the most coffee.

Coffee isn’t just for mid-day breaks in Finland. Coffee is consumed during the normal work day and is drunk with almost every meal. Scandinavian countries, like Norway and Sweden, also rank highly on coffee consumption lists.

10. Coffee can help you live longer.

We many feel coffee makes up happier and science can back that up! Due to antioxidants found in coffee, it is one of the healthiest beverages in the world. As part of a balanced diet and healthy lifestyle, coffee can help people live longer, happier lives.