

CAFES —

GUMPTION BY COFFEE ALCHEMY

Shop 11, 412-414 George Street, Sydney NSW

02 9232 4199

(<http://>)

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Coffee Alchemy

OPENING HOURS

Mon-Sat 7am-6.30pm; Sun 11am-4pm

PRICE

\$ - \$\$

FEATURES

Specialty Coffee

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In the historic Strand Arcade on George Street, amongst the stained glass and ornate tiles, lies Gumption, a cafe by Coffee Alchemy. Owner, Hazel de los Reyes, opened Gumption December 2013 and, like its 'mother cafe' (Coffee Alchemy in Marrickville), it serves only coffee – no tea, no food, no other drinks.

There is no question that the focus on coffee ensures that Manager, Lisa Tranter, and her team can focus all of their passion and attention onto their one true love: providing a delicious cup of coffee to their customers. Find a standing spot inside or grab a table out in the glorious Strand Arcade to savour your cup.

Hazel has a lifelong passion for coffee and grew up on her grandmother's farm picking cherries from the trees, and then drying and roasting them herself; she was a seasoned coffee drinker at an extremely young age. But passion for coffee is only half the story, according to Hazel.

"Passion doesn't necessarily make you an artisan," she said. "I think it's more about mastery and skill, it's about developing your craft to produce something wonderful, and when you are curious about something, you can eventually achieve that outcome."

Pretty much every item at Gumption is handcrafted by artisans who make their living from doing just one thing, and doing it well. Just like the baristas and their coffee at Gumption! From the hand-spun brass wall lighting, to the floor-to-ceiling leadlight window at the back of the shop, every item has a story and it all fits in perfectly with the surrounding Strand Arcade.

Hazel said, "The Strand Arcade was built during the height of the Arts and Crafts Movement. Its philosophy was all about bringing together like-minded artisans, focused on honouring the essence of their objects, and the Arcade still respects that sentiment today. That's what we do with coffee, too, it is a craft to us."

Just like Coffee Alchemy in Marrickville, Gumption offers all of its six blends as take-home packs. Named after famous alchemists, the blends include Goodness Galileo, Paracelsus Punch, Sibila's Brew, Holy Hildegard, Hairy Chest and Knockturn – the decaf offering. There are always two single estate coffees ready to take home as beans (or ground), one roasted for espresso and the other for filter.

If pour over is your thing, you'll be able to choose from three to four different single estate farms, or if it's cold drip you're after, you'll have a choice of two to three different single estates on any given day.

Gumption is open seven days a week and until 8pm on Thursdays, so there's no missing out on a fantastic specialty coffee. With so many options on offer here we have no doubt you will need more than one visit to appreciate just how good the coffee is.

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