

coffee: **der Kaffee**  
 cup of coffee: **eine Tasse Kaffee**

**HOW TO ORDER COFFEE IN GERMAN**



**1. Einen Kaffee, bitte. (A coffee, please.)**

Simple and to the point. In fact, your efficiency will probably be appreciated. If they ask **“Mit Milch?”** (With milk?), you can make the barista smile by replying, **“Schwarz wie mein Herz”** (Black like my heart).

If you’re in the mood for a little less caffeine, try one of these variations:

*Einen Tee, bitte.* (A tea, please.)

*Eine heiße Schokolade, bitte.* (A hot chocolate, please.)

**2. Was können Sie empfehlen? (What would you recommend?)**

Not only a good way to take advantage of local knowledge, but a useful trick to start a conversation in German. Even if you’re not entirely confident in your grasp of the language, you can probably pick out items from the menu among all the unknown words you hear back.

**3. Ich möchte... (I would like...)**

Not only handy in cafés, but in expressing all your desires in life. Why stop at coffee?

**4. Zum Mitnehmen (To take away)**

This useful little phrase can save you having to down the entire coffee quickly when you were hoping to get cardboard but got glass instead. But then again, why not sit down, take a load off and practice your German?

**5. Haben Sie...? (Do you have...?)**

Because the barista is likely to be a stranger, you’re expected to use the formal form of “you,” **Sie**. Saying **du** instead may get you a strange look, or worse, spit in your Americano.

**6. Achtung, es ist heiß. (Careful, it’s hot.)**

Although we all instinctively know that coffee tends to be hot, the waitress may be good enough to offer a little reminder. Although you probably won’t use the phrase yourself, it’s nice to know what the other person is saying.