

hot café reviews



+ Vella Nero Coffee

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Newcomer takes the Sydney coffee scene by storm. Sisters Gina, Vicky & Aileen Young left their commerce, science and marketing careers to create and launch "VELLA NERO coffee couture" in September 2007. Their unique concept includes an on-site roastery, café and retail store all rolled into one and is based on Clarence Street, in the heart of the Sydney CBD. To reach those further afield, they launched an online store and information hub, www.vellanero.com.au. They are a one-stop-shop for all things coffee and are quickly excelling in this field.

Within 7 weeks they received their first medal for roasting at the Golden Bean Awards, and within their whirlwind first year also saw several more significant accomplishments, including a rating as "Sydney's Best Coffee" in the Sydney Morning Herald Good Living (Apr-08), and the "Champion Espresso" title, plus the only Gold medal awarded for coffee at the Sydney Royal Fine Food show (Mar-08).

Following this, they were

awarded a finalist position in the 2009 Delicious Café Awards for category of "Best Café in NSW".

At the conception of their new business, the Young sisters wanted to achieve something outstanding and be integral in setting new standards in the coffee industry. VELLA NERO creates a great forum for educating customers about the intricacies of coffee, including the importance of coffee freshness, coffee selection and different brew methods.

They abide by many standards when constructing their product, and high on the agenda is a focus on ethical and sustainable practices when purchasing their range of 100% Arabica green beans. They encourage the use of reusable takeaway cups to reduce waste and also recycle coffee grinds as garden compost ... to name a few initiatives.

VELLA NERO is a great example that great-tasting yet accessible coffee wins awards for being at the top of its class, but doesn't need to compromise on social responsibility in order to do so. You can have your coffee and drink it too!