Overview

WHO WE ARE

24 years ago we started in Chicago inheriting a work ethic and pragmatism that embodies the city of Big Shoulders. Chicago is now home to six coffeebars, all unique to their neighborhood. In 2007, Intelligentsia brought its pioneering spirit and uncompromising standards to lead Los Angeles’ specialty coffee scene from the get-go. Intelligentsia now boasts three soon to be four coffeebars in the LA area, including Silver Lake, Pasadena, Venice, and next Hollywood. Totaling thirteen coffeebars coast to coast! We run a robust wholesale program and our direct to consumer eCom website reaches 1million plus unique visitors a year.
Our Quality Control department is the most multi-faceted in the company, drawing on a wide variety of talents and research to explore the space between art and science, and work on some of our most exciting ongoing projects, in addition to the relentless sample roasting and cupping that provides essential feedback to our partners at origin.

The team cup our coffee lineup daily, examining the effectiveness of their techniques and returning the feedback from the cupping table to the vintage Gothot machines, constantly tweaking as coffees pass through the warehouse shelves. Rejecting complacency, they constantly evaluate both their philosophy and execution of roasting, perpetually seeking new ways of coaxing the best a coffee has to offer out of the bean and into the cup.
QUALITY
Quality is a core value that lies squarely at the center of our vision and mission. Shared commitment to quality and continuous improvement is the glue that holds our supply chain together.

DIRECT ENGAGEMENT
As the name of our sourcing model suggests, we engage directly with our supply chain partners. Every year we visit over 50 trading partners in more than a dozen countries around the world.

LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIPS
Our oldest partnerships date back more than 15 years. Our commitment to the long-haul hedges our partners’ risk and encourages reinvestment to boost production and quality.

SHARED VALUE
We pursue quality in ways that create economic value for our partners, minimize the environmental footprint of our business, and generate positive social impact on growers and farmworkers.

TRANSPARENCY
We create clear incentives for quality in our supply chain - the better your coffee, the more you earn - and require our partners to commit to financial disclosure of all transactions all the way to the farm.
Extraordinary Coffee Workshop

LEADERS, PARTNERS, FAMILY

The Extraordinary Coffee Workshop is Intelligentsia's signature Direct Trade event. Every year we host the coffee growers in our global network in a different country where we visit farms, explore the latest innovations in coffee quality, taste coffee together and learn from and inspire one another.
A blend combines coffees with distinct and complimentary personalities to achieve something those coffees couldn’t on their own. Intelligentsia’s blends harness seasonal coffees to create layered, nuanced profiles that are greater than the sum of their parts and consistent throughout the year.

Intelligentsia single-origin coffees are sourced from some of the most celebrated family-owned estates and smallholder co-ops in the world. We seek out these distinctive coffees to underscore the specific flavor notes of a single growing region, process or varietal.

Each year, Intelligentsia evokes the flavors of the four seasons with blends carefully crafted from the best of our In-Season single-origin coffees. Our Seasonal Blends reliably mark the changing of the seasons, but each one belongs to a single moment in time, unique and unrepeatable.
The Black Cat Project formed from our belief that only the best coffees produce the greatest espressos. After all, espresso is just another form of brewing coffee. With this project, we’re challenging ourselves to go beyond common assumptions about espresso and expand what is possible in terms of flavor, aroma, and mouthfeel. Along the way, we hope to challenge you to reconsider what espresso is and what it can be.
Our Cold Coffee is delivered in the convenient bag-in-a-box format for tap systems (at a 5:1 concentrate).
TEA

HOT, ICED + SPARKLING, MATCHA

Kilogram teas are cultivated, sourced and prepared with the same dedication to quality that Intelligentsia applies to its coffee lineup.

HOT TEA
Kilograms seasonal teas, are sourced from some of the world’s most exclusive tea gardens, have pristine leaf appearance and complex aromas. Our black, oolong, green, and herbal teas are available in loose leaf and in tea bags.

ICED and SPARKLING TEA
Featuring a specially curated blend of fresh herbs and botanicals, Kilogram’s iced teas are crafted to offer sweet and complex flavors that are crisp and refreshing when chilled.

MATCHA
Organic Matcha is a powdered green tea from Japan. When whisked vigorously with hot water, it produces a thick, frothy beverage that is rich in both flavor and antioxidants. Delicious Hot or Iced.
We know how to make great coffee at high volume. With ten retail stores, each one is an exercise in managing high volume yet never compromising on quality. This requires constant training, and it is this training that we want to share with your staff. We know how to foster a culture of education and excellence, and how to create loyal customers who understand specialty coffee. We can offer a comprehensive training packages tailored to your needs—either at any one of our labs or in your own café.

To ensure we are always current on global trends in roasting and brewing, Intelligentsia has a long history of working with the Specialty Coffee Association (SCA), the World Barista Championship (WBC), and the Roaster’s Guild.
Audience

Intelligentsia’s premium brand equity is evidenced by its loyal customer base, 63% of which are millennials who have strong affinity and serve as our primary brand advocates.
Audience

What Coffeebar customers are saying

*Based on 100+ reviews from Yelp excluding “Intelligentsia”

Instagram
167k | @intelligentsiacoffee

Facebook
65k | @intelligentsiacoffee

Twitter
54k | @intelligentsia
Some humble brags...

- U.S. Brewers Cup Champion 2015
- Top 6 Most Innovative Iced Coffees
- Best Coffee in Chicago
- America's Best Coffeebars
- Best Coffee in the U.S. – 3x Winner
- Top 20 Coffee Shops of America
- Best Coffeehouses in America
- 4 Restaurants with Amazing Coffee Programs
- Top 10 Cult Coffee Shops
- Three time U.S. Barista Champion
- The Best Coffee Shops in the U.S.
What people are saying about Intelligentsia

“The best coffee I’ve ever had in my life, without a doubt! This place is the place if you want a good cup of coffee or just relax over a drink!”

“…‘third wave’ artisanal roasters, cult coffee brands that keep cropping up…”

“…evolved from a neighborhood shop into one of the industry’s most influential coffee companies”

“The people here are truly amazing. I come here almost every morning and every time the drink is incredible. If I am away for more than a few days I go crazy. Best coffee EVER. Hands down. Best employees too!”

“More companies and cafes are selling coffee sourced from distinct regions that’s been roasted in a particular way. Intelligentsia is evidence of the appeal.”

“Those once-scrappy roasters…have now grown from regional companies with cult following to nation player with global profiles.”

“Plain and simple: this is how coffee is done. Intelligentsia is essentially the benchmark by which I judge all other coffee and cafés.”

“This is one of those indie places that you’ll love. The coffee made by the baristas is just incredibly amazing, the velvet texture of the frothed milk, the rich deep flavors and the smell of the just grounded coffee are all well mixed together, with such technique that you’ll be amazed. This is a must go place for anyone in the Chicago loop area.”
We pride ourselves on being apart of the conversation. Lending our voice as experts, sharing exciting news like NSO, wholesale partnerships and educating with key messages on specialty coffee, seasonality, and Intelligentsia Direct Trade.

We have partnered with The Door to help our efforts in key and new markets to help our marketing team craft our communication strategy.

Over 3 BILLION impressions in 2019
Events

Intelligentsia participates in events and partnerships spanning across key markets in the United States ranging from music festivals, film festivals, beer collaborations, bike racing and more.
SO

WHAT’S

THE

PROBLEM

?
HELP!