

McVitie's Gold Billions Wafer: Why a Coated Wafer Stays Crisp

From the teas.co.uk wiki

McVitie's Gold Billions Wafer: Why a Coated Wafer Stays Crisp, in summary: A 39g single bar of crisp wafer sealed inside a chocolate and hazelnut coating. The coating is what keeps it crisp, so snap it rather than dunk it, keep it out of the fridge and pour a black coffee.

Last reviewed by the teas.co.uk team in September 2026.

Wafer is about as delicate as baking gets, and the Gold Billions bar is built to protect it. Wrap a wafer in [chocolate](#) and the air cannot reach it, so the bar keeps its snap long after an open wafer would have gone limp.

Wafer, filling and a sealed coat

Take the bar apart and three things are at work. Thin wafer sheets supply the crunch and very little flavour, a filling sits between them, and a chocolate coating closes the whole bar off. The chocolate and hazelnut character comes from that coating and the filling; the wafer is there for lightness, which is why a bar this rich still eats lightly rather than sitting heavy.

The published label is short and clear. Wheat, milk, egg, soya and hazelnuts are all declared, and the nut is the one to notice first. It is in the name on the front as well as in the allergen advice, so a household that avoids nuts can rule the bar out at a glance. Everyone else should still check the current pack, which is always the final word.

Why it keeps when loose wafer does not

Uncoated wafer is drier than the room it sits in, so once it is exposed it pulls moisture back out of the air, and after it has gone soft there is no reviving it; a spell in a warm oven only turns it leathery. Sealing the wafer inside chocolate takes the air out of the equation, which is how a coated bar can wait in a drawer or a bag for months and still break cleanly.

The same thinking tells you where to keep it. Room temperature and out of direct sun is right; the fridge is wrong. Cold turns the coating waxy and mutes the hazelnut, and the hazelnut is most of what separates this

from a plain chocolate wafer. Moving a chilled bar into a warm kitchen also invites condensation, and with it bloom on the surface.

Snap it, never dunk it

Of all the coated bars, this is the one to keep well away from the mug. A hot drink makes the chocolate seize, and no biscuit soaks up liquid quicker than the wafer inside, so it collapses at once. Break it instead, and snap rather than bite: the layers part cleanly, the sheets stay whole and the filling is not squeezed out at the edges.

For the cup beside it we would pour black coffee. Roasted bean and toasted hazelnut belong to the same roasted family, and an unflavoured coffee brings the nut forward rather than smothering it. If you would rather have tea, brew a robust black blend or an [Assam](#) and add a little milk, so the cup has enough body to meet the coating.

The packs we stock

- [McVitie's Gold Billions Wafer Chocolate & Hazelnut, 39g](#) (barcode 5000168005751)

What the label says

The published ingredient list for McVitie's Gold Billions Wafer Chocolate & Hazelnut, 39g says it contains wheat (gluten), milk, egg, soya and nuts (hazelnuts). Check the current UK pack before purchase; formulations and allergen advice can change.

Typical values per 100g Per 100g

Energy	544 kcal
Fat	33.4g
of which saturates	17.5g
Carbohydrate	54.3g
of which sugars	47.7g
Fibre	2.2g
Protein	6.9g
Salt	0.25g

Ingredient and nutrition information for this product, as published on the manufacturer's label. The pack in your hands is the final word.

What to drink with it

- [L'Or Espresso Supremo Coffee Intensity 10, 40 Pods 208g](#): A short, intense black coffee in pod form, the roasted partner that pulls the hazelnut in the coating to the front.
- [L'Or Nespresso Compatible Espresso Supremo Aluminium Coffee Intensity 10, 10 Capsules](#): The same Espresso Supremo style in Nespresso-compatible aluminium capsules, a smaller box for that

kind of machine.

- [Barry's Tea Gold Blend, 80 Tea Bags 250g](#): A robust everyday blend with the weight to stand up to chocolate and hazelnut, milk in.
- [Dragonfly Organic Vanilla Rooibos, 40 Tea Bags 100g](#): A vanilla [rooibos](#) for a change from [black tea](#), since vanilla and toasted hazelnut sit comfortably together.

Elsewhere in the McVitie's range

- [McVitie's Club Layers Orange, 39g](#)
- [McVitie's Club Mint Biscuit Bars Multipack, 7 Bars 154g](#)
- [McVitie's Club Orange Biscuit Bars Multipack, 7 Bars 154g](#)
- [McVitie's Club Salted Caramel Flavour Biscuit Bars Multipack, 7 x 22g](#)
- [McVitie's Dark Chocolate Digestive Biscuits, 266g](#)
- [McVitie's Digestive Pink Raspberry & Cream Flavour, Limited Edition, 232g](#)

The full range is on the [McVitie's brand page](#).

FAQ

Does the Gold Billions wafer contain nuts? Yes. The published allergen advice lists hazelnuts, along with wheat, milk, egg and soya, so check the current pack if anyone at home has an allergy.

Why does a coated wafer bar stay crisp for so long? The chocolate seals the wafer away from the air. Uncoated wafer takes on moisture within hours of opening and never recovers its snap.

Can you dunk a wafer bar in tea? Not this one. The coating seizes and the wafer gives way almost instantly, so keep it beside the cup.

Should a wafer bar go in the fridge? No. Cold makes the coating waxy, flattens the hazelnut and can cause bloom; room temperature, out of the sun, is best.

What is the best drink with a chocolate hazelnut wafer? Black coffee, because roast and toasted hazelnut share a register. For tea, a strong black blend with a little milk.

Curator's note: Snap it in half before the first bite and you can see why the format works: clean layers and nothing left in the wrapper. With a black coffee it rarely lasts long. Lee, [teas.co.uk](#), Tunbridge Wells.

In short: McVitie's Gold Billions Wafer: Why a Coated Wafer Stays Crisp

Field	Detail
Brand	McVitie's
Packs we stock	39g
Category	Wafers
Allergens (as published)	It contains wheat (gluten), milk, egg, soya and nuts (hazelnuts).
Dunkable	No, snap it instead

Field

Detail

Best with Black coffee, or a strong black tea with milk
Keep it At room temperature, never in the fridge

More from the tea wiki

- [Tea and Biscuits](#)
- [Biscuit Dunking Physics: The Real Science](#)
- [Tea Pairing Principles: Reason, Don't Memorise](#)
- [Tea With Cake: The Pairing That Never Fails \(If You Get It Right\)](#)
- [Tea and Food Pairing: The Five Principles](#)
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