

Starbucks Blonde Espresso Roast by Nespresso

From the teas.co.uk wiki

Starbucks Blonde Espresso Roast by Nespresso, in summary: The lightest roast Starbucks puts in a Nespresso Original capsule: bright, clean and very low in bitterness, with a citrus and orchard-fruit edge. Take it black or with a little milk; it will not fit a Vertuo machine.

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

Most people who say they dislike espresso are really objecting to roast bitterness, and this capsule is built to take that away. The beans leave the roaster earlier, so the fruit and brightness a longer roast would burn off are still in the cup.

What stopping the roast early does

Blonde means the beans come out of the roaster early. Stop the roast before the sugars are taken far and you get almost no smoke and little cocoa; what remains is the coffee's own sweetness and a lively acidity. In the cup that means brightness, a clean finish, a light body and fruit at the edges, citrus and orchard fruit rather than cocoa. Bitterness, the part so many people dislike about espresso, barely registers.

Light does not mean weak. A dark roast tastes heavier because of what roasting creates, the caramelised sugars, the smoke and the bitterness, not because more coffee went into it. Roast depth describes flavour, not [caffeine](#), so think of blonde as a lighter-tasting coffee rather than a smaller helping of one. The box holds ten Nespresso Original capsules, 53g in total.

Original capsules, not Vertuo

These are made for the Nespresso Original system under the Starbucks by Nespresso name, so there is no compatibility gamble with an Original machine. A Vertuo brewer is no use here: it only accepts its own capsules, identified by a barcode around the rim. The two systems share a brand and very little else, and people get caught out regularly, so check which machine is on the worktop before ordering.

The sealed capsule matters more for a light roast than a dark one. Much of a blonde roast's aroma is delicate origin character rather than roast smoke, and those light compounds are the first to escape once coffee is ground. Because grinding and sealing happen together at the factory, with the oxygen removed, the citrus and fruit are still there when the machine pierces the capsule. They fade fast in the cup, so drink it

promptly.

How to drink it, and where it sits in the range

Go easy on milk. With a body this light, a blonde roast disappears under a full mug of milk, so drink it black or with a splash. It also takes well to ice: pull a shot over a glass of ice for a bright iced coffee that tastes fresh rather than scorched. Among the Starbucks by Nespresso capsules we stock, it is the light end, with the Dark Espresso Roast at the other extreme and a [decaf](#) Blonde Espresso Roast for the evening.

Food should respect the brightness. A lemon biscuit echoes the citrus edge, and a plain butter cookie gives sweetness without weight. Milk [chocolate](#) digestives work too, their sweetness rounding off the acidity. Heavily spiced [biscuits](#) and very dark chocolate tend to flatten a light roast, so keep those for the darker capsules. The range also includes a separate Blonde Roast, sold in a larger 36-capsule box.

The packs we stock

- [Starbucks Blonde Espresso Roast by NESPRESSO Coffee, Blonde Roast, Box of 10, 53g](#) (barcode 7613037301793)

What to eat with it

- [Border Lemon Drizzle Melts Organic Biscuits, 150g](#): A lemon biscuit that echoes the citrus edge of a light roast.
- [Royal Dansk Danish Butter Cookies, 340g](#): Plain butter sweetness that sits under a bright coffee without weighing it down.
- [McVitie's Digestives Milk Chocolate Biscuits, 433g](#): Milk chocolate rounds off the acidity, for anyone who likes a little richness beside the cup.

Elsewhere in the Starbucks range

- [Starbucks Americano House Blend By Nescafe Dolce Gusto, Coffee \(12 Servings\), 12 Pods](#)
- [Starbucks Breakfast Blend by Nespresso Medium Roast Coffee, 10 Capsules 56g](#)
- [Starbucks by Nescafé Dolce Gusto 12 x Madagascar Vanilla Macchiato Coffee \(6 Servings\)](#)
- [Starbucks by Nescafé Dolce Gusto 12 x White Mocha Coffee \(6 Servings\)](#)
- [Starbucks by Nespresso Blonde Espresso Roast Coffee, 10 Pods](#)
- [Starbucks by Nespresso Blonde Espresso Roast Decaf Coffee, 10 Pods 55g](#)

The full range is on the [Starbucks brand page](#).

FAQ

What does blonde roast mean? The beans came out of the roaster early, so there is very little smoke or cocoa and more of the coffee's own fruit and acidity.

Is blonde roast weaker than dark roast? Not in the way most people mean. It tastes lighter because roasting has created less bitterness, and roast depth is not a caffeine rating.

Will Starbucks Blonde Espresso Roast capsules fit a Vertuo? No. They are Nespresso Original capsules, and Vertuo machines only take their own barcoded capsules.

Should I add milk to a blonde roast? Sparingly. The body is light, so a splash suits it far better than a full mug of milk.

Is there a decaf version? Yes. Starbucks by Nespresso also makes a Blonde Espresso Roast Decaf, which we stock in a box of ten.

Curator's note: Drink the first one black, and within a minute of it landing in the cup. That is when the fruit is at its brightest, and it is the whole reason to choose a blonde roast. Lee, teas.co.uk, Tunbridge Wells.

In short: Starbucks Blonde Espresso Roast by Nespresso

Field	Detail
Brand	Starbucks
Packs we stock	Blonde Roast, Box of 10, 53g
Category	Coffee Pods & Capsules
Caffeine	caffeinated
Machine	Nespresso Original, not Vertuo
Best served	Black, with a splash of milk, or over ice
Suits	Anyone put off by bitter espresso

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- [Starbucks Tea: Café Range and the Teavana Story](#)
- [Tea vs Coffee: Taste, Caffeine and Switching](#)
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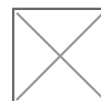
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