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COFFEE BRANDS BREW UP MAJOR EXPANSION GOALS

Regardless of any COVID-19 case fluctuations or economic downturns, Americans still want their daily cups of coffee. Most of the top coffee brands have accommodated the public's need for quick, safe convenience by offering drive-thru capabilities in smaller spaces that are either standalone units or end caps with drive-up windows. Suburban-based power centers and strip malls along busy street thoroughfares, especially units near college campuses, remain sought after real estate for coffee tenants that are currently expanding, even more so than downtown urban spots. This is due to the continued uncertainty of stay-at-home workers returning to offices full time in the future.

Thanks to the daily habitual need of customers, coffee brands have proven to be top tenants. Most of these brands have a loyalty program, ensuring repeat customers. Coffee provides a lower cost guilty pleasure for consumers, and coffee dates still remain safe, convenient modes of gathering. Coffee and tea can be enjoyed throughout the day, and the non-alcoholic aspect of these drinks opens up the day-to-evening traffic for both millennials with families, and the under-21 teen/tween segment with disposable income. In addition to industry giant **Starbucks**, many other coffee brands are expanding, including **Caribou Coffee**, **Dutch Bros Coffee**, **The Human Bean**, **Black Rock Coffee Bar**, **Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf**, **Bad Ass Coffee of Hawaii** and **Illy Caffé**.

Starbucks expects to open approximately 450 new units in the U.S. per year over the next two to three years. The coffee leader will concentrate on about 45% of these units being drive-thru-only or pickup-only smaller units, in the 1,500- to 3,500-s.f. range, and locations will be centered on up-and-coming suburban sites in the Southeast, the Southwest and the Central Midwest. Starbucks continues to benefit from its customer loyalty rewards app.

In October, a rumor was leaked that Starbucks is in talks with Amazon about potentially opening newly branded units that will feature hot food items found in current **Amazon Go** stores, and these cafes will feature the pre-ordering cashierless "Just Walk Out" technology. Customers can also dine in the lounge area, or do a grab-and-go. The preferred audience would be time-crunched professionals in the 25- to 45-year-old range who live in densely populated urban environments.

Caribou Coffee announced last month that it is now franchising in the U.S. in order to increase its national footprint. This comes on the heels of its new ownership entity announced in September called **Panera Brands**, which is an offshoot of **JAB Holding Company**, and incorporates Caribou Coffee, **Panera Bread** and **Einstein Bros Bagels**. Caribou, which has lofty goals of opening 200+ units per year over the next 10 to 15 years starting in mid- to late 2022/early 2023, will be concentrating on expanding in the Northwest, Southeast and Midwest via multi-unit operators interested in opening at least 10 units each. Expect to see growth into new states, potentially Idaho, Utah, Kentucky and Tennessee, in addition to further growth in those states where Caribou is still underrepresented, including Illinois, Ohio, Oklahoma, Indiana, Wyoming and Michigan. Caribou expects its "Cabin" prototype — which debuted in 2019 and is a 550- to 650-s.f. drive-thru-only freestanding or end cap unit with a walk-up window and patio dining space — to be popular with the post-COVID convenience crowd, especially along busy suburban streets, interstates and in more rural communities. Caribou also offers its "Chalet" prototype, which is between 1,600 and 1,800 s.f. with or without a drive thru, and can be in inline spaces, in addition to end cap and freestanding pads. Caribou, with its mountain lodge-themed appearance, is known for serving clean caffeine drinks that don't contain artificial flavors or sweeteners.

Dutch Bros Coffee is on an expansion trajectory, anticipating opening approximately 85 to 100 new units per year over the next four years, at least.

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The Northwest-based coffee chain will not only infill with more locations throughout California, Colorado and Idaho, but will continue to push its presence throughout country, aided by a new Midwest-based coffee roasting facility expected to be built within the next year. After further Midwest growth into such states as Missouri and Tennessee by late 2024/early 2025, Dutch Bros anticipates expansion along the northern East Coast. The coffee company, which went public in September and sold enough shares to raise \$482.2M, is seeking space for its latest drive-thru standalone prototype, between 865 and 900 s.f., in rural and suburban locations just off of main highways, ideally near high school campuses and universities. Its coffeehouse buildouts, which have one or two drive-thru lanes and outdoor patio dining if space allows, are primarily in outparcels in power centers or strip malls with co-tenants such as **ALDI**, **The Baked Bear** and **Hobby Lobby**. Dutch Bros is popular with the Gen Z/20-something crowd who gravitate to the brand's energy drink, "Blue Rebel" that represents 24% of its total sales. The chain also sells coffee shakes, cold brews and espresso-based coffee, and has found success with its rewards program, accessed via its mobile app.

The Human Bean is on track to open approximately 30 new units per year over the next five years, via franchising. Look for upcoming growth to take place in new states, specifically in Loudon County, Va., northern Florida, Lexington, Ky., northern Mississippi, the central regions of North Carolina and Memphis, Tenn. Continued growth will also take place in Atlanta, San Luis Obispo County, Calif., Fresno County, Calif., northern Colorado, Canton, Ohio, Phoenix and Scottsdale, Ariz. The Human Bean prefers standalone sites for its new construction buildouts, consisting of 600-s.f. buildings that can accommodate either single or dual drive-thru lanes and, when applicable, outdoor seating. The brand will also consider end caps with a drive-thru window. Preferred locations are in suburban or developing rural locations in or near college towns and on busy highways or retail streets near other quick service brands, such as **Chick-fil-A**, or errand-related brands, such as a **Shell** gas station. Space can also be in strip centers with good street signage. The Human Bean, known for its fast service drive thrus, serves high-quality, smooth-flavored espresso-based coffees, whole leaf teas and real fruit smoothies. The chain also has a downloadable rewards app that offers points-based perks to its loyal customers.

Black Rock Coffee Bar expects to open between 20 and 30 new units per year over the next three years. Expansion will especially be strong in high-growth markets in the Southwestern states of Arizona, Texas and Colorado. Look for the MSAs of San Antonio, Phoenix and Denver to be the focus in 2022, especially suburban spots in traffic corridors that accommodate work/school/home commutes. Black Rock seeks standalone pads or end cap spaces, in the 800- to 2,800-s.f. range, with drive-thru window capabilities. Ideal space should be in high-traffic grocery-anchored neighborhood power centers or strip centers, with fast food co-tenants, including **Domino's**, as well as popular errand-heavy brands in the vicinity, including gas stations, such as **Exxon**, and big-box retailers, such as **Costco**. Sites near college campuses are a plus. Black Rock received capital in December of 2020 from equity investment company, **The Cynosure Group**, to boost its franchise and corporate expansion goals. The coffee brand is known for its premium roasted coffees and teas, as well as other beverages, such as its smoothies and "Fuel" branded energy drinks.

Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf, which earlier this year hired a new president of U.S. operations, plans to double its unit size over the next eight years, amounting to about 25 to 30 new units per year until late 2027/early 2028. Markets initially targeted will be the major U.S. metros, including New York City, Chicago, Miami and Los Angeles, followed by popular secondary and tertiary cities throughout the country, such as Nashville, Tenn., Austin, Denver and Phoenix. The coffee brand would like to ultimately increase its presence to all 50 states via franchising. Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf is concentrating on growing its drive-thru units, which currently encompass only one-third of its total units. Ideal space range is between 800 and 2,000 s.f. for drive-thru units, frequently found in standalone or shared parcels within grocery-anchored power centers and lifestyle centers. Preferred co-tenants include high-traffic brands, such as **Albertsons** and **Rite Aid**. Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf continues to benefit from its purchase two years ago by **Jollibee Foods Corp.**, which infused the brand with capital to assist with growth. Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf offers a rewards program, originated the concept of the ice blended coffee drink and provides unique handcrafted blends of its coffees and teas.

Bad Ass Coffee of Hawaii expects to open 20 to 25 new units in 2022, followed by at least 30 new units per year until 2025. The company recently signed new franchisees and growth is expected in the near future throughout Nashville, Knoxville, and Gatlinburg, Tenn.

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New units will come to the suburbs of Phoenix and Dallas, Rochester, Minn., Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia and the Inland Empire area of Southern California. The coffee franchise is also eyeing potential expansion into Georgia and the Carolinas. Bad Ass Coffee looks for high-visibility space in the 1,200- to 1,800-s.f. range in either an end cap or a freestanding building with drive-thru capabilities, in grocery-anchored shopping centers, lifestyle centers or power centers on high-traffic commuting thoroughfares. Nearby mixed-use developments, high schools or college campuses and tourist-themed locations are an added plus. Preferred co-tenants include popular restaurants and daily visit brands, such as **24 Hour Fitness**. Bad Ass Coffee has Hawaiian-theme interiors and is famous for its Kona coffee selections.

The Italian-based Illy Caff  hired a new president of its U.S. operations in April and expects to expand at a rate of about 15 to 20 new units per year over the next four to five years. Illy Caff  sold 20% of its company to the U.S. investment firm, **Rhone Capital LLC**, last year, to help fuel its national growth. Illy Caff  seeks space in the 1,300- to 2,200-s.f. range, and will target markets with a large cosmopolitan audience, such as New York City, San Diego, Seattle, Raleigh-Durham, N.C., Houston, Dallas and Austin. Look for ideal spots to include high-end malls and lifestyle centers in popular tourist destinations, ground-floor retail spaces in thriving hotels and office buildings, and airport spots in busy international hubs. Illy Caff  serves authentic Italian coffee in addition to sandwiches, wraps and salads.

LENDERS RETURN TO RETAIL

More and more lenders will be open to retail deals going forward. The retail financing market will continue to improve, particularly as lenders look to find yield and opportunities outside of the industrial and multifamily asset classes. Next year, the outlook for retail will be tied to the overall economy as consumers drive tenant sales, which drives the durability of tenant rents and property cash flows. Consumers have returned to purchasing in a big way post-pandemic and retailers are adapting to a new normal that includes more e-commerce sales. Currently, most sources of retail loan liquidity are coming from the CMBS and debt fund sectors. Keep an eye out for a resurgence of life company and banks funding an increasing number of retail loans going into 2022.

Rates will be in the low 2% to 5% range. Grocery-anchored deals will see 2.75% to 3.25% rates at moderate leverage, while other deals will start around 3.25% to 3.75%. Borrowers will see leverage reach 60% to 70% for the best assets. DSC will be in the 1.30x to 1.45x range, although grocery-anchored deals will start at 1.25x. Big-box retail and malls will need 1.50x to 1.60x DSC. Debt yield will be around 8% to 9%. Expect a preference for acquisition loans as there is fresh cash coming into the deal. Lenders will start to consider lower vacancy factors, lower cap rates on stabilized centers and faster lease-up assumptions when underwriting.

Banks such as **Bank OZK, Chase, MUFG Union Bank, Pacific Premier Bank, Applied Bank, TIAA Bank, Bank of Hope, Frost Bank, Ameris Bank and Fidelity Bank** will be active. **CIBC** seeks cash-flowing retail in strong markets, while **Washington Trust** targets grocery-anchored and essential retail. **HomeStreet Bank, Banc of California and Associated Bank** will be selective. Banks will provide 50% to 65% leverage. Rates will start around 3.25% to 4.25%. Bank lenders will be focused primarily on excellent sponsorship where they can see a larger relationship and they will chase grocery-anchored retail deals. Expect banks to require personal guarantees.

CMBS lenders such as **Wells Fargo, Morgan Stanley, Goldman Sachs, Ladder Capital, Starwood Mortgage Capital, Citi, KeyBank, UBS, Argentica, Basis Investment Group and Sabal Capital Partners** will also be active. Borrowers will see 60% to 70% leverage and 3.5% 10-year fixed rates. Debt yield could drop below 8% for the best-in-class properties. CMBS will be the best bet for retail centers in small markets.

Life companies such as **Northwestern Mutual, Guardian Life, StanCorp Mortgage Investors, John Hancock, Securian Asset Management, Allstate, AIG, American Equity Life, Lincoln Financial Group, Nationwide, PPM, State Farm, RiverSource and Security National Commercial Capital** will fund deals. **Symetra** will consider essential retail, while **National Guardian Life** will be selective.

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ANATOMY OF A LEASE



Photo credit: Anna Tabakova

Tenant:	Tend
Location:	Boston
Square Footage:	3,000 s.f.
Property Type:	Historical Office Building
Developer:	EverWest Real Estate Investors
Initial term:	10 Years

By mid-December, Tend, the luxury dental brand that features spa-like interiors, expects to open a ground-floor unit at the base of the historical, six-story 12 Post Office Square Building, in the heart of Boston's financial district. This will be a 10-year full lease for Tend in the Class B building and the retailer is confident in the thriving market. The space had previously been occupied for more than 20 years by a local dental practice.

Tend specifically caters to an urban customer, and the dental chain feels the demographics in the Boston neighborhood perfectly suits its needs. Within a mile of the financial district site is a bus line, as well as luxury condos, high rise offices, and the Norman B. Leventhal Park. Nearby retail brands include **FedEx Office, Dunkin** and **sweetgreen**. This location is one of two that Tend is opening in the Boston metro in December, with its second location coming to the Cambridge neighborhood. Tend plans to continue expanding into upscale urban locations in the U.S., with new units in Atlanta and Arlington, Va., expected to open by early 2022. Tend's goal is to elevate the dental experience for its customers.

Tenant Representation: **Kiely & Company**, 4650 Falmouth Road, Suite 3, Cotuit, MA 02635. Rick Kiely, Broker, (508) 428-9104. rick@kielyandco.com

Property Representation: **Newmark**, 225 Franklin St., 33rd Floor, Boston, MA 02110. Pat Paladino, Senior Managing Director, (617) 772-7266. pat.paladino@nmrk.com

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There will be a much bigger focus on who the tenants are and how they performed over the last year. Major grocery chains, such as **Publix**; drug stores, such as **Walgreens**; home improvement stores, such as **The Home Depot**; and needs-based retail tenants will be the most sought after. Tenants that have not been able to transition to e-commerce sales will not be targeted.

Grocery-anchored retail with a high portion of the income coming from grocers will continue to be the most sought after, while high-street retail and malls will be tougher to finance. Although, big-box retail or malls that can be converted to another property type will be considered as a worst-case scenario option. Lifestyle and community centers are becoming more in favor, and lenders will also seek strip retail properties where the tenants performed well over the last year. If there is not a grocer, lenders will want an infill high-traffic location, excellent tenant sales and strong credit tenant profiles.

Markets seeing an increase in population and job growth that offer a lifestyle city dynamic, as well as low-tax and business friendly locations, are gaining the most interest from lenders. Retail centers in the Southeast, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, the Carolinas, Texas and Arizona, and suburbs of gateway markets will be preferred. Centers in the Northeast and Midwest will be tougher.

TENANTS TO WATCH

New to Crittenden's Retail Tenants Directory

COMPANY	WHY THEY'RE WORTH WATCHING
<p>Scissors & Scotch Preferred Sq. Footage: 1,700-2,800 s.f. 12-Month Anticipated Openings: 30-35</p>	<p>The Midwest-based men's hair salon targets growth in Texas, Chicago, Atlanta, Minneapolis, New York City, Phoenix, Seattle, Oklahoma City, Denver, Nashville, Tenn., Des Moines, Iowa, and the Washington, D.C., MSA. Lifestyle center, power center, downtown and street-front sites will be desired. The brand sets itself apart by offering a full cocktail bar and a lounge setting in its salons.</p>
<p>Miniso USA Preferred Sq. Footage: 3,000-4,000 s.f. 12-Month Anticipated Openings: 24</p>	<p>The Chinese discount retailer plans to almost double the number of U.S. outlets from 30 to 54 by year's end. The chain is taking advantage of the low rents available because of the pandemic and ultimately expects to have thousands of U.S. locations and is looking for franchisees nationwide. The first East Coast store recently opened in Cherry Hill, N.J., and a flagship location is coming to the Tangram mall in Flushing, N.Y. Shopping center, regional mall and grocery-anchored sites are targeted. The chain is known for Japanese-inspired lifestyle products such as household goods, cosmetics and food at affordable prices.</p>
<p>Salt Life Preferred Sq. Footage: Varies 12-Month Anticipated Openings: 7+</p>	<p>The Florida-based retail brand, which is under the Delta Apparel Inc. umbrella, will add new units this year in Myrtle Beach, S.C., and Galveston, Texas, which is the first location in the Lone Star State. The chain plans at least five additional retail locations in 2022. Downtown, street-front and shopping center sites are targeted. The chain is focused on those who love the sea with products ranging from apparel, performance gear, sunglasses and accessories. There are also three Salt Life Food Shack locations.</p>
<p>Scotch & Soda Preferred Sq. Footage: 3,000-5,000 s.f. 12-Month Anticipated Openings: 2</p>	<p>The men's, women's and children's apparel brand plans rapid brick-and-mortar expansion with two new units coming to King of Prussia, Pa., and the SouthPark Mall in Charlotte, N.C., adding to the 39 existing U.S. stores. The chain also plans around 20 new stores internationally by end of the year. Shopping center sites are targeted. The chain is headquartered in Amsterdam.</p>
<p>Big Shots Golf Preferred Sq. Footage: 40,000 s.f. 12-Month Anticipated Openings: 1+</p>	<p>The entertainment and restaurant venue will add its fourth location to the Bryan Midtown Park development in Bryan, Texas, this winter. The new location will include virtual climate-controlled golf tee boxes, a restaurant, mini-golf, lawn games and lounges with handcrafted cocktails. Locations are also rumored for St. George, Utah, and Marion, Ill. Freestanding pad sites are desired.</p>
<p>O2 Fitness Preferred Sq. Footage: 11,000-14,000 s.f. 12-Month Anticipated Openings: 1</p>	<p>The fitness chain will open a unit in the New Market Square shopping center in Burlington, N.C., in a spot that formally housed a T.J. Maxx. The new location is expected to open in January and will be the 20th unit for the Raleigh-based company. Downtown, street-front, freestanding pad, shopping center and grocery-anchored sites will be targeted.</p>

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NEW CONTACTS

in Crittenden Retail Tenants Online Directory



COMPANY	ADDRESS	NEW CONTACT(S)
Ben Bridge Jeweler Preferred Sq. Footage: 1,400-5,000 s.f.	2901 Third Ave. Suite 200 Seattle, WA 98121	Mark Himmelman , Director of Real Estate
Caffe Nero Preferred Sq. Footage: 2,400-3,300 s.f.	320 Congress St. Fourth Floor Boston, MA 02201	Dylan Phillips , Director, U.S. Operations
Cardenas Markets Preferred Sq. Footage: 20,000-70,000 s.f.	2501 E. Guasti Road Ontario, CA 91761	Steven Harding , SVP, Operations
CircusTrix Preferred Sq. Footage: 10,000-40,000 s.f.	P.O. Box 302 515 N. University Ave. Provo, UT 84603	Rich Cook , COO Tom DuBois , Senior Director of Real Estate Cord Robbins , SVP, Operations
City Winery Preferred Sq. Footage: 20,000-30,000 s.f.	25 11th Ave. (at 15th St.) New York, NY 10011	Michael Dorf , Founder/CEO David Miller , COO
GolfTEC Preferred Sq. Footage: 1,000-3,500 s.f.	12450 E. Arapahoe Road Suite B Centennial, CO 80112	Dean Larsen , COO
HearUSA Preferred Sq. Footage: 900-2,500 s.f.	10455 Riverside Drive Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410	Larry Fisher , VP, Business Development

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