



Press
Release

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SOHOCOFFEECO. MAKES ITS NORTHERN DEBUT AT MANCHESTER AIRPORT



Today, Friday 27 February saw the official welcoming of SOHO Coffee Co. to Manchester Airport. This is the South West coffee brand's first venture 'up North' bringing its unique organic coffee experience to Terminal 1 and 2 courtesy of SSP UK, the food travel experts.

SSP UK MD Nathan Wall, SOHO Directors Penny Manuel and Chris Copner, Manchester Airport Commercial Director Andrew Harrison were all present to celebrate SOHO's Northern arrival and sample some of its now legendary Banoffie Pie.

Talking about the brand's Northern adventure, SOHO Director, Chris Copner comments, "Everyone at SOHO is thrilled to be opening at this wonderful new location. Manchester Airport is one of the UK's premium airports, with a tremendous amount of traffic passing through both terminals every day. This is the sixth airport store we've opened in partnership with SSP UK and the first in the North. Having a presence in the North West's capital city is an exciting move for us, and gives huge exposure for the growing SOHO brand. Following the success of this venture, we are considering further expansion in the region."

Andrew Harrison, Manchester Airport's Commercial Director, said: "We are delighted to welcome SOHO Coffee Co to terminal 1 and 2. It's a great new offer for our airport from SSP, providing something new and different, which both contrasts with and complements our existing facilities. It is part of our multi million pound terminal redevelopment scheme, all designed to give our passengers with as much choice as possible when they start their journey in Manchester.'

Since the modest SOHO Coffee Co. chain was taken over in 2007 by Penny Manuel and Chris Copner, they have taken ambitious steps to expand it from a handful of stores to a 15 strong chain in just 18 months predominantly around the South Western region. Manchester's two new additions are the latest in the SOHO portfolio making Manchester only the second airport to boast a double set after the brand's home airport Bristol.

Dedicated to serving organic, fair-trade coffee brewed from its house blend of 100% Arabica beans SOHO is not 'just another coffee shop'. Its ethos is simple; to provide customers with the

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best quality coffee and food using organic products where possible. All freshly prepared in the kitchen each day - from roasted beef sandwiches, jumbo jacket potatoes, homemade soup to delicious homemade banoffee pie, as well as a selection of wraps and salads.

Designed with urban chic in mind, both outlets combine a contemporary style with an easy charm. The rich, vibrant hues of purple and lime complement the dark wood tones, creating a relaxing and welcoming atmosphere with classic banquet seating, funky poseur height tables and stools and also dining shelves. The layout and design lends itself to both a dining experience or 'quick caffeine fix' on the move, so there really is something to suit everyone.

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SSP MD Nathan Wall and MAG Commercial Director Andrew Harrison



SOHO Director's Penny and Chris with Management Team



Notes to Editors:**ABOUT SSP UK**

SSP UK operates over 610 retail and catering outlets including restaurants, pubs, bars and coffee shops at 22 airports and 115 rail stations throughout UK and Ireland.

ABOUT SSP

SSP, the Food Travel Experts, is the leading dedicated operator of food and beverage brands in travel locations worldwide, with operations in more than 130 airports in 29 countries. Its unparalleled portfolio of international, national, local, speciality and new breakthrough food and beverage brands includes its own national and international brands.

Among these are Caffè Ritazza, Burger King, M&S Simply Food, Bonne Journée, Caviar House & Prunier, Pizza Hut, Upper Crust and Le Train Bleu. SSP has operations in airports, train stations, retail parks and conference centres.

ABOUT SOHO COFFEE CO

SOHO Coffee Co. Ltd is a national coffee shop chain, specialising in organic and Fairtrade products. Food is freshly prepared daily, at a central kitchen, and distributed direct to stores each morning. SOHO is a people-focused company, with a strong commitment to staff and high levels of customer care.

The existing chain includes two outlets in Cheltenham, two in Bristol – at Cabot Circus and Cribbs Causeway – two in Cardiff – at St David's and Capitol Centre – and one in Worcester. In addition, SOHO has a franchise agreement with travel concessions caterer SSP, to operate at UK airport locations. Current stores are based at Birmingham, Bristol, Dublin, East Midlands, and Manchester Airports. A further partnership with Roadchef has seen SOHO open its first motorway outlet at Strensham Services, with plans for roll-out across the network.

Websites:

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