

Cafelito, a trendy spot for coffee lovers in Lavapiés

In a *barrio* undergoing the gradual process of gentrification, chic cafes are a dime a dozen. [Cafelito](#), situated on Calle Sombrerete near [Mercado de San Fernando](#), quickly stood out amongst the crowd as my go-to spot for coffee and studious activity in the barrio. The owner, Julio, imports his coffee from locations such as Kenya, Ethiopia and Mexico.



During my first two years abroad I lamented the absence of iced-coffees, especially during the pinnacle of the Madrid summers. This past summer, when **Cafelito** opened, they boasted of offering **homemade iced-coffee using cubes of frozen coffee as the ice**. Since then, I have gone through 6 full punch

chards and been rewarded for my loyalty with as many free drinks.



My favorite winter drink, which I typically take to go, is **dirty chai**. When I need to sit and be studious as I write assignments like this, I usually take a **double espresso** of **whichever imported coffee is available that week**.



[Cafelito](#) is now a hub for the writers amongst us in the barrio. The charms of the cafe are enhanced by the recycled furniture and open library. Coffee drinkers can borrow books—on the honor system—and leave books in the hope that they in turn will be borrowed.



They have cakes too.



[Web](#)

[Facebook](#)

Address: Calle Sombrerete 20

Metro: Lavapiés

**Looking for other spots in Lavapiés?
Check out:**

Baobab, an authentic Senegalese restaurant

Tribuetxe, a Basque pintxo bar

Mercado de San Fernando, the real food emporium

Taberna Lamiak, another Basque pintxo bar with
free wine tastings