

Coffee Premiumisation in an Inflation-Weary World

January 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Why read this report? Recommendations/Opportunities for growth

INTRODUCTION

Coffee in the era of high prices The coffee industry has become very reliant on premiumisation to drive growth Consumers lose interest in premium attributes as grocery prices rise... ...and grocery inflation is the reality of the coming decade Persistently high price levels will dominate consumer mindsets for the rest of the 2020s

ROUTE 1: LUXURY

High-income consumers represent the largest proportion of spending growth An intensified focus on high-end products is the endpoint of third wave coffee Sae Coffee shows how high the price point of luxury coffee can go Luxury brands looking to extend into coffee are emphasising the sit-down experience The personal touch will become a luxury in an atomised , digital world

ROUTE 2: FUN AND UNCOMPLICATED

The "fourth wave" is about speed and convenience, not another jump in quality Speaking to mental health concerns with vibes and not functionality Happy Coffee addresses the mental health crisis without functional ingredients The RTD explosion in the context of the desire for simplicity The pod slowdown and the changing face of at-home coffee Has instant coffee finally made the jump into premium?

ROUTE 3: WELLNESS

Wellness holds as a spending priority amid consumer cutbacks Energy remains dominant, but other functional spaces are on the rise The collapse of weight loss as a category and the opportunities in GLP-1s Cognition is the most promising emergent category for coffee to focus on London Nootropics focuses on tailored cognitive boosts in coffee Beauty, digestive health and beyond: Demand exists, but should there be supply?

CONCLUSIONS

Recommendations/Opportunities for growth Evolution of coffee premiumisation Questions we are asking

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