



Cold brew with cream

Offering Coffee LTOs

Limited-time offers are an effective strategy for foodservice operators to create excitement, drive more visits and test out potential new beverage menu items.

The number of LTOs is rising

64%

Increase in LTO launches in the Top 500 over the past 5 years.¹

Why? To stay top of mind for consumers in an increasingly competitive market.

LTOs drive traffic at commercial foodservice; they can do so at non-commercial foodservice, as well

Consumers who say availability of seasonal items/LTOs are the reason for visits:²



Choosing the right LTO³

When strategizing, foodservice operators should decide what their goals are and plan an LTO accordingly:

Primary Objective	LTO Type
Engaging core guests —	\longrightarrow Broad appeal
Drive new traffic ———	──→ Niche item
Generate buzz ———	\longrightarrow Novelty item
Attract core guests and new customers	\longrightarrow Best in class

LTO Inspiration⁴

BROAD APPEAL:

Customers love espresso-based specialty coffees.

Menu tip: Offer an LTO featuring espresso, such as a Cafe Mocha or an Americano—espresso and hot water—with a new blend of beans.

NICHE:

Consumer trial and interest in cold brew coffee continues to grow. In 2020, it trended as a Top 5 delivery item.⁵

Menu tip: Promote cold brew on mobile app and hanging signage indicating its arrival—trendsetters and curious coffee drinkers alike will love it.

NOVELTY:

Often these items pick up on current trends or aim at attracting social media buzz.

Menu tip: Showcase Instagrammable options with an array of toppings, or highlight the use of on-trend nondairy alternatives, such as oat milk, almond milk or coconut milk creamer.

BEST IN CLASS:

These are classics with a twist.

Menu tip: Menu seasonal flavors for lattes—pumpkin spice is perfect for fall and peppermint is great for winter, for instance.



¹Technomic Five Types of Limited Time Offers Webinar May 2019 ²Technomic 2018 Bakery and Coffee Café Consumer Trend Report ³Technomic Five Types of Limited Time Offers Webinar May 2019 ⁴Technomic 2019 Limited Time Offer Trends ⁴Grubhub 2020 Year In Food