

Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

Barriques Cafe — Middleton, WI

Lila Coen · Sunday, October 26th, 2025

i think i lied when i said it was my favorite place. that is because the only place i go for coffee other than **barriques** is starbucks but it is too cliché to say starbucks. all of me would be grievances if there was no real place i would think of that i like to go.

i lied again. i don't like the coffee at barriques. it is too bitter. when i add sugar packets to it i can feel the grains like pieces of sweet sand in between my teeth when i clench my jaw. it is prickly. like swallowing air.

i like the berry berry smoothie. it is a combination of blended banana strawberry blackberry and some other fruits that make it a berry smoothie rather than a strawberry banana smoothie which i would normally prefer except that's not on the menu. overall i would give this coffee shop a seven out of ten. because i also like the hot chocolate. it is cold enough i can let it melt on the roof of my mouth before i swallow it so it doesn't burn my throat when i drink too fast.



i like the chairs. they are brown and square and hard. i don't move when i sit on them. and i become

very conscious of how heavy my shoulders are according to my neck. overall I like the smoothies more than the coffee.

the bathrooms dont lock and there are paper signs taped to the bathroom doors telling customers to knock and wait five seconds before opening the door. how thoughtful. i will never be able to pee there i am too scared of someone walking in on me. my throat smothers my voice when i say “in here” and i swear i am speaking but no one can hear me.

one time my mother stopped by here to pick me up a smoothie on the way to school. it took them a very long time to make and i didnt have time to ask them to add the whipped cream they forgot to put on top.

i love the color. even when it isnt blended well enough as it should be. i love the color. it is a weird combination of maroon and purple and it reminds me of sunrise when it is raining. such is time.

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Barriques — Middleton

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