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### Any tips for brewing coffee at home?

“Watch your water temperature. If you do your own pour-over coffee, make sure it’s not too hot. I personally do a pour over with Sleepy Monk coffee at home. I would stay away from the Keurig and drip coffee. If you tell Sleepy Monk you’re doing a pour over they will grind it to the right consistency.”

### How does the coffee grind affect the taste?

“If it’s a coarser grind meant for a drip machine, it’s able to go through the grind faster. The faster the water is running through the coffee, it changes the consistency. Here we use a lot finer grind than the pour over grind, so the water is able to flow through at a nice pace to get a perfect pour every time.”

### Why is water temperature important?

“If it’s too hot it will burn the coffee. The grounds will burn before the water comes out and it will have a bitter taste when you drink it. I like about 200 degrees but not more than that. If it’s rapidly boiling you want it to sit until it’s not boiling.”

### How has the response been since opening?

“It’s been good, had a lot of people from the community the first week. I took coffee to our neighbors (Farmers Insurance) next door this morning.”

### What’s been your favorite part?

“The community here, just opening up a store and meeting all the other store owners and residents. And it’s been so wonderful working every day next to the water. I love Astoria.”



**Top:** Coffee Underground is located at 1004 Marine Dr. in Astoria, all part of an underground mall filled with small business. “The coffee stand alone is a draw for the whole building,” Stowers said.



**Left:** Traditional Turkish coffee is brewed in 200-degree sand using a unique long-handled copper pot called a ‘cezve,’ pictured.

**Right:** Turkish coffee, served with Turkish candy, pictured, is strong, comparable to Cuban coffee.

PHOTOS BY  
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