**Background**

The first Starbucks opened in Seattle, Washington, on March 31, 1971,[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Starbucks#cite_note-14) by three partners who met while they were students at the [University of San Francisco](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_San_Francisco):[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Starbucks#cite_note-TimeOutSF-15) English teacher [Jerry Baldwin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerry_Baldwin), history teacher [Zev Siegl](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zev_Siegl), and writer [Gordon Bowker](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gordon_Bowker) were inspired to sell high-quality coffee beans and equipment by coffee roasting entrepreneur [Alfred Peet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred_Peet) after he taught them his style of roasting beans.[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Starbucks#cite_note-Pren2523-16)The company took the name of the [chief mate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chief_mate) in the book [*Moby-Dick*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moby-Dick): Starbuck

The first Starbucks store was located in Seattle at 2000 Western Avenue from 1971–1976. This cafe was later moved to 1912 Pike Place

**Accomplish**

In 1988 the owner of Starbucks decided to focus their resources on Peet's Coffee & Tea and sold Starbucks to Schultz for $3.8 million.

One of the “Most Admired Companies in America”  
Fortune – 2003–2015

One of the “World’s Most Ethical Companies”   
Ethisphere – 2007-2015

“Employer of the Year”   
U.S. Business Leadership Network Annual Leadership Awards – 2014

100% Rating on the Corporate Equality Index   
Human Rights Campaign Foundation – 2015

One of the “Top 10 Employers of the Year in China”   
Zhaopin.com’s Annual Best Employer Award – 2014

One of the “Best Workplaces in Canada”   
Great Place to Work Institute – 2011-2014

“Retailer of the Year”   
Visual Merchandising and Store Design – 2013

One of the “World’s 50 Most Innovative Companies”   
Fast Company – 2012

**Howard Schultz, Starbucks chief executive officer**  
One of the “Highest Rated CEOs”   
Glassdoor – 2014

One of the “World’s 50 Greatest Leaders”   
Fortune – 2014

Ever since Starbucks has been growing in expanding and has become the #1 coffee shop in America.