

POLICY PACK 2026

SAFEGUARDING CIVETS & UK CONSUMERS FROM CIVET COFFEE TOURISM

Include civet coffee attractions in
The Animals (Low-Welfare Activities Abroad) Act 2023



www.thecivetproject.com



Executive Summary

Policy Needs



What is the problem?

To meet consumer demand for civet coffee, civets across Asia are captured, caged, and force-fed coffee in low welfare and hazardous conditions.

How does this impact UK citizens?

Nine out of 10 leading travel companies claim to have animal welfare policies, but all have been found selling tickets to civet coffee attractions on their platforms. This misleads to the public, who rely on the information provided by their travel company to make informed welfare-wise decisions about their holiday experiences.

Policy Needs

Civet coffee attractions meet all the requirements of the [Animals \(Low-Welfare Activities Abroad\) Act 2023](#) and should therefore be included in its list of prohibited activities. We ask that you use your platform to raise this important issue, through...

- Oral & Written Parliamentary Questions on this issue
- A letter to the Defra Minister showing your support for the inclusion of civet coffee tourism on the banned list of activities under the Animals (Low-Welfare Activities Abroad) Act 2023.
- Help the Civet Project secure a meeting with the Defra officials to discuss this important topic.



Civet coffee is reliant on civet cruelty



Civet coffee (known as 'kopi luwak' in Indonesia and 'Caphechon' or 'weasel coffee' in Vietnam) is a **luxury coffee created through the digestive tract of Asian civets**, small nocturnal carnivores found across southeast Asia. Civet coffee is famous as the most expensive, rare, and unique coffee in the world. One cup of civet coffee can reach prices of up to \$50.00 USD, a price justified on the false claims of its rarity and uniqueness. While it is said there is only 127kg of civet coffee available in the world per year (Marcone, 2024), in reality, civets are farmed for civet coffee throughout southeast Asia.

Civet coffee tourism is now popular across southeast Asia including Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, East Timor and southern China. In civet coffee attractions, civets are caged, drugged, and force fed coffee as display animals and tourist photo-props. If this activity were to take place in the UK, it would be illegal under the Animal Welfare Act (2006).

Civet coffee tours are widely sold to UK consumers under fraudulent claims of positive animal welfare assurances. Yet civets are nocturnal, solitary and have a highly varied diet. Caffeine toxicity, poor nutrition, and high stress cause significant suffering and lead to premature death.

MYTHS

TRADITIONAL



Civet coffee is rarely consumed as a traditional beverage in southeast Asia, contrary to what tourists are led to believe.

Civet coffee's mass production is the result of consumer interest that emerged in the early 2000's after it was featured in popular film and television media.

FACTS

MYTHS

MUTUALISTIC



Civet coffee tours often include messaging to the tourists claiming that their civets are well cared for.

It is not possible to meet the welfare of civets in civet coffee farms/tours. Civets are nocturnal, solitary, and require a varied omnivorous diet. Caffeine toxicity alone will kill them.

FACTS



Recommendations

The Animals (Low-Welfare Activities Abroad) Act 2023

We are asking MPs and Peers to stand up for civets who have no voice. Defra are currently considering the implementation of the Animals (Low-Welfare Activities Abroad) Act 2023 and are reviewing which activities will be banned from the advertising and sales to British consumers travelling abroad.

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Together we can make a difference to defenceless civets.



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