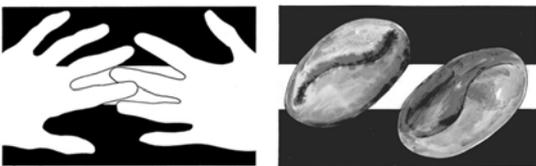




Fairtrade & Ethical Sourcing



"We aim to trade in a manner which supports a sustainable world environment and economy. We trade preferentially in products which follow the Fairtrade ethos and alert our customers to the problems of cash crop agriculture. We are concerned that much of world trade is to the disadvantage of poorer nations with a consequence for people's health and lives. We operate a fund from which to support projects addressing and challenging this imbalance. 4% of our wage costs are contributed to this fund."

From 'Principles of Purpose' Unicorn Grocery.

Fairtrade is about the relationship between producers and buyers. It is especially concerned with small producers in developing countries. Fairtrade ensures basic rights and improved living standards for these small producers. It does so by:

- Offering guaranteed prices
 - Building long-term trading relationships
- Fairtrade challenges the conventional model of trade.

Fairtrade's progressive alternative offers everyone a sustainable future.

Fairtrade gives us, as consumers, choice about how we shop. We can take responsibility for the role we play when we buy products from developing countries.



The Fairtrade Foundation awards an independent consumer guarantee - the FAIRTRADE Mark - to individual products which meet Fairtrade criteria regarding terms of trade and conditions of production.

The Fairtrade terms of trading are:

- A price to the producer that covers the cost of production.
- A social 'premium' to be used by the producers to improve their living and working conditions.
- Advance payment to avoid small producer organisations falling into debt.
- Contracts that allow long term planning and sustainable production practices.

The Fairtrade production conditions are:

- Small scale farmers can participate in a democratic organisation.
- Plantation/factory workers can participate in trade union activities and have decent wages, housing, and health and safety standards.
- No child or forced labour
- Programmes for environmental sustainability.

At present there are ten food categories where internationally agreed Fairtrade criteria exist. The FAIRTRADE Mark appears on over 130 retail products including fresh fruit, chocolate, cocoa, coffee, honey, orange juice, tea and sugar. Other organisations such as The Good Food Foundation & Tropical Wholefoods apply Fairtrade criteria and many Organic Certifiers are moving to apply Fairtrade conditions to producers.



Ethical sourcing is defined by the principles and practices of a company. Many businesses have guidelines by which they trade. At Unicorn these include worker rights, environmental impact and animal welfare. This is how we, as a business, take responsibility for the role we play in global trade.

We sell a wide range of fairly traded cocoa, coffees and teas, including herbal teas, some of which are endorsed with the Fairtrade Mark. In addition, many excellent fairly traded products including dried fruits and vegetables, nuts, pulses, beans, seeds, dried herbs, spices and TVP are available in the shop. These cannot carry the Fairtrade Mark because as yet no criteria exist.

Unicorn recognises that fair and sustainable trade does not involve just imported commodities. We promote local production, particularly of fresh produce - greengrocery, bakery and delicatessen. We trade with many innovative independent & globally aware companies such as the Camphill Trust project at Botton Village.

Even though a great deal of thought goes into sourcing produce we recognise costs of trade, with these in mind, and in addition to the 4% fund (see front cover) we pay a voluntary carbon tax on road haulage costs to Trees for Life in Scotland. There are bound to be great products and companies

we haven't heard of and maybe a few you think we shouldn't trade with so please share your knowledge with us and use our comments book.

A few interesting contacts!

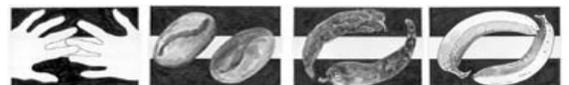
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Unit 21, Old Birley Street
Manchester M15 5RF
www.ethicalconsumer.org

Fairtrade Foundation
Suite 204, 16 Baldwin's Gardens
London EC1N 7RJ
www.fairtrade.org.uk

Trees for Life
The Park, Findhorn Bay
Forres, Scotland IV36 TZ

Camphill Trust Project
The Food Centre, Botton Village, Danby,
Whitby, North Yorkshire, YO21 2NN

Good Food Foundation
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