



The importance of different foods varies between cultures. Diet depends on available food **resources**, and people may place higher value on rare plant foods. In Asia, some people eat the stinky, yet creamy durian fruit. Because it smells like sewage, some cities **ban** it from public transportation and hotels.



*As large as a football and covered in bumps, the durian fruit can look and smell a bit scary.*

*Pickled beets on a burger?  
Many Australians would  
recommend it.*



Australians top burgers with pickled beets and a fried egg. Dutch people like potato chips with mayonnaise, ketchup, raw onions, and peanut sauce. When people move to new places, they bring their food traditions with them. Many Americans now love tacos and enchiladas spiced with hot peppers, learned from people in places like Mexico and Central America.

## Coffee Anyone?

In southeast Asia, Asian palm civets eat the choicest, ripe coffee cherries, but cannot digest the beans inside. After the beans pass through the cat's digestive system, people collect, roast, and grind them to make the most rare and expensive cup of coffee in the world.



*Farmers now raise Asian  
palm civets, or Luwak cats,  
to produce a special coffee.*