



September Café & Cake

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

September is known across Vietnam for their unique and creatively designed coffee shops. In Quận 4 (District 4), you can find the bright and playful café “The Wind Blows,” a space designed to look like a bird’s nest. The architects behind this project, Ben Decor and Red5Studio, have created a space that is both familiar and characteristic of September while also incorporating a new concept.

Together, these designers have created a nest-like atmosphere throughout two adjacent former residential buildings, wrapping the width and height of the two facades with whirling steel shapes that mimic a woven nest. The circles hanging in the facade move as the wind blows, like a symbolic image of birds on a branch. This circular image

and the curves around it are also mirrored throughout the space: from the glass holes in the entrance, stairs, and walls to the tiny details on the furniture and fixtures. The wind’s image is incorporated into the design, with curves in the space, through the ceiling, walls, and floor, like a breeze spreading into every corner.

Inside, the interior develops this nest theme, utilizing biomorphic design practices to bring patrons an experience tethered to nature. Customers can find many cozy corners into which they can tuck away with a coffee and cake, and little nooks and crannies are scattered throughout the space, piquing customers’ curiosity and urging exploration. They may, for instance, discover a little alcove at the base of the