

Claims

1. An apparatus (1) for roasting coffee beans, the apparatus (1) comprising:
a chamber (10) in which coffee beans can be received for roasting, and
a device for generating a current of air in order to agitate the coffee beans
received by the chamber (10),
wherein the chamber (10) is delimited by a bottom (11), a top (12), and a
sidewall (13) extending from the bottom (11) to the top (12), wherein the
sidewall (13) comprises a discharge port (30), which is selectively moveable
between a closed position and an open position, such that the current of air
generated by the device can drive the coffee beans through the discharge port
(30) to be discharged from the chamber (10), when the discharge port (30) is
in the open position.
2. The apparatus (1) according to claim 1, wherein the discharge port (30) is
arranged to be closer to the bottom (11) than to the top (12), and/or wherein
the discharge port (30) is arranged to be distanced from the bottom (11) at a
distance, the distance being in the range from 0% or 5% or 10% or 20% or 30%
or 40% or 50% or 60% or 70% of the height of the compartment (10) to 5% or
10% or 20% or 30% or 40% or 50% or 60% or 70% or 80% of the height of the
compartment (10), the height of the compartment (10) being from the bottom
(11) to the top (12) of the compartment (10).
3. The apparatus (1) according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the discharge port (30) is
manually moveable between the closed position and the open position, and/or
wherein the apparatus (1) comprises a driving unit (36) arranged to move the
discharge port (30) between the closed position and the open position.
4. The apparatus (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the
discharge port (30) is slidably or pivotably moveable in order to move the
discharge port (30) between the closed position and the open position, and/or
wherein the sidewall (13) is moveable, e.g. pivotably moveable, in order to

move the discharge port (30) between the closed position and the open position.

- 5 **5.** The apparatus (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the device is adapted to generate a heated current of air to roast the coffee beans received by the chamber (10), wherein the apparatus (1) preferably comprises a heater for heating air so that the so heated air is blown by the device into the chamber (10) in order to generate the heated current of air, and/or wherein the device is adapted to generate a current of air to cool the coffee beans
10 received by the chamber (10).
- 6.** The apparatus (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the apparatus (1) comprises a control unit for switching the apparatus (1) between a roasting mode and a discharging mode, wherein in the roasting mode the
15 discharge port (30) is in the closed position, and wherein in the discharging mode the discharge port (30) is in the open position.
- 7.** The apparatus (1) according to claim 6, wherein in the roasting mode the apparatus (1) is arranged to roast the coffee beans received by the chamber
20 (10), e.g. by the device generating a heated current of air inside of the chamber (10).
- 8.** The apparatus (1) according to claim 6 or 7, wherein in the discharging mode the apparatus (1) is arranged to use the current of air generated by the device
25 to drive the coffee beans through the discharge port (30) to be discharged from the chamber (10).
- 9.** The apparatus (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein at least a cross-section of the sidewall (13), which comprises the discharge port
30 (30), has at least in part a circular or elliptical shape.
- 10.** The apparatus (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the bottom (11) comprises an air inlet, and wherein the device is arranged to blow

air through said inlet in order generate the current of air inside of the chamber (10).

- 5 **11.** The apparatus (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the top (12) comprises an outlet (14) that is selectively moveable between a closed position and an open position, wherein in the open position the outlet (14) allows air and/or coffee chaff to be discharged from the chamber (10).
- 10 **12.** The apparatus (1) according to any one of the preceding claims, further comprising a chaffs collector (50), wherein the chaffs collector (50) is arranged to collect chaffs of the coffee beans, e.g. via the outlet (14), wherein the apparatus (1) is preferably adapted to use the current of air to drive the chaffs into the chaffs collector (50).
- 15 **13.** System (100) comprising an apparatus (1) according to any one of the preceding claims and a further apparatus, wherein the further apparatus is functionally connected to the apparatus (1) to process the coffee beans, which are discharged from the apparatus (1) through the discharge port (30).
- 20 **14.** System (100) according to claim 13, wherein the further apparatus comprises a grinder for grinding the coffee beans, and/or wherein the further apparatus comprises a beverage preparation machine (101) for preparing a beverage from the coffee beans.
- 25 **15.** Method for ejecting coffee beans from a chamber (10), in which the coffee beans are received for roasting, wherein the chamber (10) is delimited by a bottom (11), a top (12), and a sidewall (13) extending from the bottom (11) to the top (12), the method comprising the steps of:
- 30 generating a current of air in order to agitate and/or roast the coffee beans received by the chamber (10),
- moving a discharge port (30), which is provided in the sidewall (13) of the chamber (10), into an open position, such that said current of air drives the

coffee beans through the discharge port (30) to be discharged from the chamber (30).