

Press Café as “Penny University”

Penny University is a term originating from the 18th-century coffeehouses in London, England. Instead of paying for drinks, people were charged a penny to enter a coffeehouse. Once inside, the patron had access to coffee, the company of others, various discussions, pamphlets, bulletins, newspapers, and the latest news and gossip. Reporters called "runners" went around to the coffeehouses announcing the latest news, perhaps not too unlike what we might hear on the TV or the radio today.

This environment attracted an eclectic group of people who met and mingled with each other at these coffeehouses. In a society that placed such a high importance on class and economic status, the coffeehouses were unique because the patrons were people from all levels of society. Anyone who had a penny could come inside. Students from the universities also frequented the coffeehouses, sometimes even spending more time at the shops than at school.

The Press Café is similar in that it is open to everyone and is a safe place for the freedom to speak your mind. The Café is a place to meet friends and others to express your ideas with openness. You can eat, drink and discuss the issues in your community. You can learn from others and share a unique experience in Batumi. We arrange debates; discussions open to the public, films, art exhibits, book signing, and educational classes. Read the wide variety of newspapers and publications available while at the café. Watch News from around the world on our high definition TV. Additionally, we have created a café menu that is affordable, tasty and diverse and even if you do not wish to eat or drink we welcome everyone to participate.

The Press Café is a popular meeting place for friends, for the public, for journalists, and people from all walks of life. Enjoy good conversation, listen to music, search the web with free Wi-Fi, while tasting one of our wonderful sandwiches, pizza, specialty coffee or tea drinks, or a cocktail from our full service bar. Be a part of the future of Batumi in the unique experience that is the Press Café, near the Port of Batumi.