



Bitcoin Payments for Afterglow Coffee



Money without bosses. Built on consensus.
Sound familiar?

The short version: Your Square system already supports Bitcoin Lightning payments. Turning it on means 0% processing fees (until 2027), no chargebacks, and instant settlement — all on your existing hardware. No new tools, no middlemen, no corporate gatekeepers.

Why Bitcoin Aligns with Afterglow's Values

- **No bosses, no hierarchy** — Bitcoin has no CEO, no board of directors, no shareholders extracting profit. It's open-source software maintained by a global community through *consensus* — every participant has an equal voice.
- **Horizontal by design** — No bank, corporation, or government controls Bitcoin. It's a flat, peer-to-peer network. No one can freeze your funds, reverse your payments, or tell you who to serve.
- **Transparent supply chain** — Every Bitcoin transaction is publicly verifiable on an open ledger. The metrics for accountability are clearly defined and immutable — no one can cook the books.
- **Resource redistribution, not extraction** — Card processors take 2.6% of every swipe. That's wealth flowing from your workers to Visa shareholders. Bitcoin Lightning on Square charges 0%. That money stays with your co-op.
- **Direct trade, applied to money** — You already source coffee where sustainability metrics are clearly defined. Bitcoin lets you accept payment the same way — directly, transparently, without exploitative intermediaries.
- **Mutual aid infrastructure** — Bitcoin enables borderless, permissionless transfers. Pay a coffee farmer in Guatemala directly. Support mutual aid anywhere on earth. No bank approval needed.

"We believe that another world is possible." — So does Bitcoin.

0%

Processing fees on
Bitcoin payments (thru 2027)

~2.6%

What card processors
extract per swipe

0

Chargebacks or
corporate gatekeepers

66M+

Americans already
participating

How to Turn It On (3 Steps)

- 1 Log into Square Dashboard** → Settings → Payment Methods → Enable Bitcoin Payments
- 2 Complete KYB verification** — Standard Know Your Business check (same as when you set up Square)
- 3 Start accepting payments** — Customers scan a QR code at checkout. Works with any Bitcoin Lightning wallet. No new hardware needed.

Real-world proof: Compass Coffee (27 locations, Washington DC) was the first coffee chain to accept Bitcoin via Square in October 2025. It worked seamlessly across 10+ different customer wallets on day one — no disruption, no learning curve.

Common Questions

Do we need new hardware?

No. Works on your existing Square terminal, POS, and online store.

Is it volatile? Will we lose money?

You can auto-convert every Bitcoin payment to USD instantly. Zero price risk. Or hold some if you choose — your call, no one else's.

What about energy use?

Bitcoin mining increasingly runs on stranded and renewable energy. It's the only payment network where energy sourcing is even part of the conversation — aligning with your commitment to sustainability.

What does it cost?

Nothing. 0% fees through 2027. No subscription. No new equipment. Just fewer dollars flowing to corporate payment processors.

Resources

- **Square Bitcoin page:** squareup.com/us/en/bitcoin
- **Getting started guide:** squareup.com/us/en/the-bottom-line/inside-square/getting-started-with-bitcoin-on-square
- **Compass Coffee case study:** bitcoinmagazine.com — [Compass Coffee case study](#)

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Questions? Reach out anytime — let's build a circular economy in Richmond together.

"Here's to our collective future."