Christopher Columbus brought cocoa beans to the Spanish royalty from his fourth journey to the Americas. King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella turned up their noses at the beans, and regarded them as a bizarre tribal food.¹

Americans alone will spend **\$700 million** on chocolate for Valentine's Day.²

...... It would take more than a dozen chocolate bars to equal the amount of caffeine found in a cup of coffee.³

• One chocolate chip provides enough energy for an adult to walk 150 feet.³

Chocolate syrup was the substitute for fake blood in the original Alfred Hitchcock movie *Psycho*. It had a more realistic consistency than the fake blood typically used in film making.³

It takes 400 cocoa beans to make one single pound of chocolate.³

Chocolate often melts in your mouth because the melting point of cocoa butter is just below the human body temperature.³

The World's Finest Chocolate Company in Chicago created the world's largest chocolate bar in 2011, weighing in at 12,290 pounds.⁴

The mess kits of all American space missions have included chocolate bars.¹

Are you a runner with a chocolate addiction? Sign up for the **Hot Chocolate 15k or 5k**. Dubbed "America's Sweetest Race," the event takes place in 8 cities across the United States and benefits the Ronald McDonald House Charities. Visit **hotchocolate15k.com** for more information.

3. Food Network UK

4. Denver Post