Notes de

red apple, maple and seared peaches

ROSALBA CIFUENTES

Chiapas, Mexico

With her company Mayan Harvest Coffee, Rosalba Cifuentes is able to improve the labour and living conditions of 110 coffee growers from her community in Bella Vista.

Being in charge of logistics, exports and sales, ensures that she can provide traceability and transparency as well as adding value to the coffee.

Specifications

Lot	Café de Mujeres harvested by a group of 110 women living in Bella Vista, Chiapas
Varials	Typica, Bourbon, Caturra
Altitude	1500 - 1750 m.a.s.l.
Crop	2019-2020-2021
Process	Washed
Mill	At the Bellavista station
Exported by & imported by	Mayan Harvest Coffee Balam Coffee Project

Feedbacks from the team

« Crazy aromas of maple

« I love this one no matter how I drink it. Espresso, Chemex, Cold Brew, French-Press... it's always so good!»

— Caroline

« I usually like subtle, simple, minimalistic things, and this is exactly what I like about this coffee. »

— Hiromi

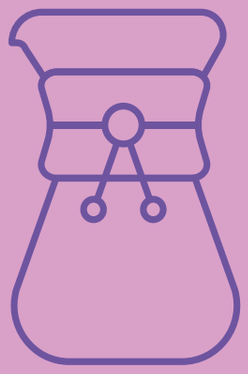
and vanilla, flavours of sweetened fruit jam, well-balanced, easy to drink and yet, its nuances make it an outstanding coffee!»

— Sébastien

Notre recette

We got the best out of this coffee when using a Chemex!

30g of coarsely ground coffee + **500g** of water, at **95 °C**



Pre-infusion:

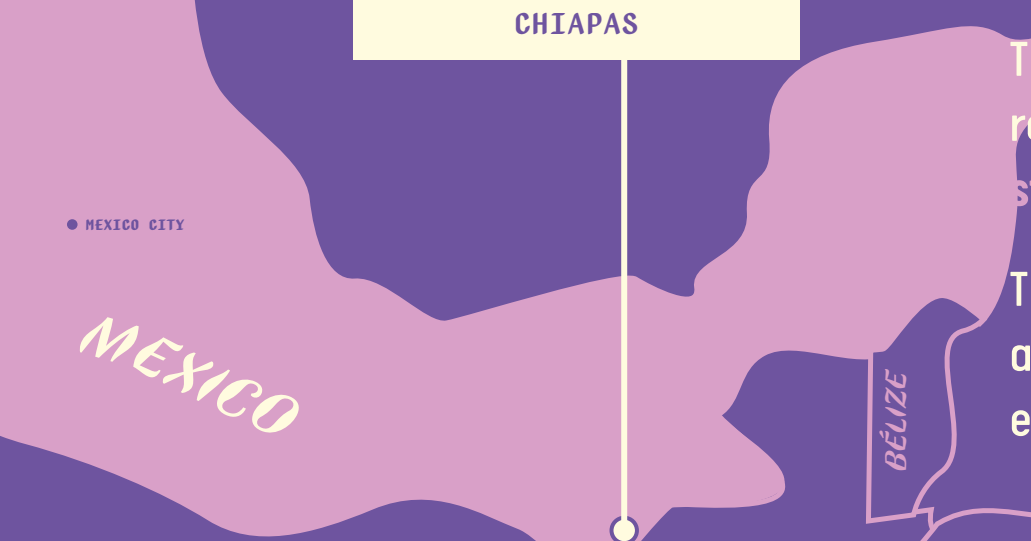
Pour 60 grams to evenly wet the grounds, let sit for about 30 seconds.

Infusion:

Then, slowly pour the rest of the water with circular movements and steadiness, in order to complete the infusion within 3 to 4 minutes.

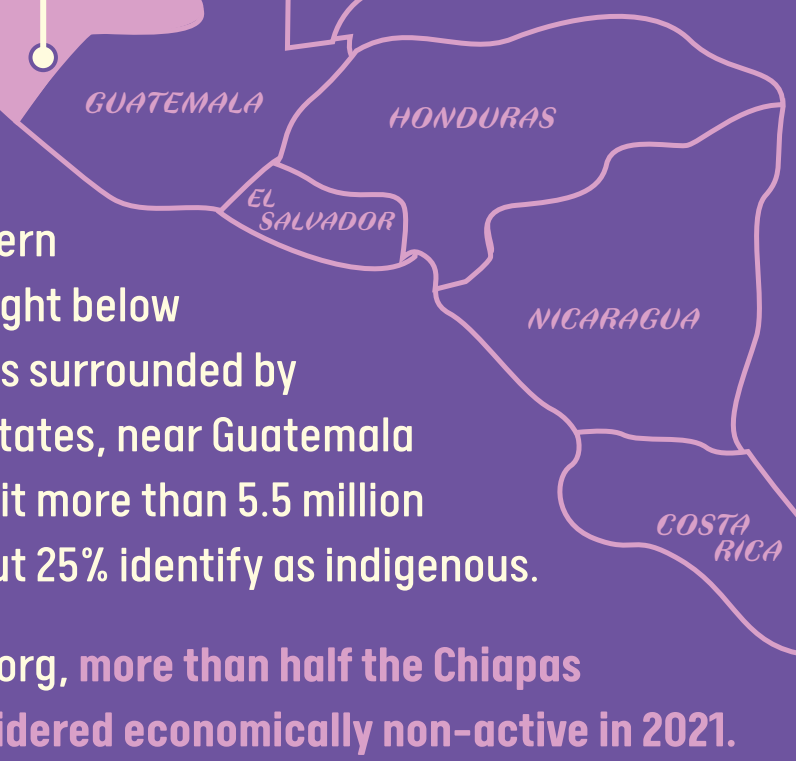
The rurality and geographical distance to urban centres hinder the development of the local economy.

MAYAN HARVEST COFFEE



This makes Bella Vista an unfortunate fair representation of Chiapas, **the poorest state in Mexico.**

The addition of a rising number of widows as well as single mothers makes this region even more vulnerable to poverty.



Chiapas is the most southern state of Mexico, located right below the Yucatán peninsula. It is surrounded by the Tabasco and Oaxaca states, near Guatemala and the Pacific Ocean. A bit more than 5.5 million people live there and about 25% identify as indigenous.

According to datamexico.org, **more than half the Chiapas population would be considered economically non-active in 2021.**

Mayan Harvest Coffee

Based on her knowledge of the then current situation, Rosalba Cifuentes founded Mayan Harvest Coffee.

With her export company, Rosalba can **support smallholders in the area, improve their agricultural practices and their families livelihoods** by obtaining higher prices for their coffees.

level of humidity is the perfect breeding ground for parasites and the development of fungi that are prone to endangering the coffee trees.

However, the 110 female farmers producing the Café de Mujeres lot become **less and less precarious as they gather their harvests and can count on one another**

Farmers in Bella Vista have to deal with a **very humid climate,** reaching close to 100% each day during the harvest season.

On one side, such humidity can be good for the fruits quality, slowing down their development. But on the other side, this **to gain volume.** In the event of a problem, they always find strengh through unity.

In the framework of the Union Micro-lot series, Union Coffee has signed **a sale agreement** with Mayan Harvest Coffee. This contract ensures that we not only purchase, but are provided with a specific quantity of the Café de Mujeres each year, until 2022.

This way, it is simpler for the 110 farmers to **plan the costs of harvest, to anticipate future incomes and to make better investments** in the infrastructures or anything else for that matter.

Rosalba

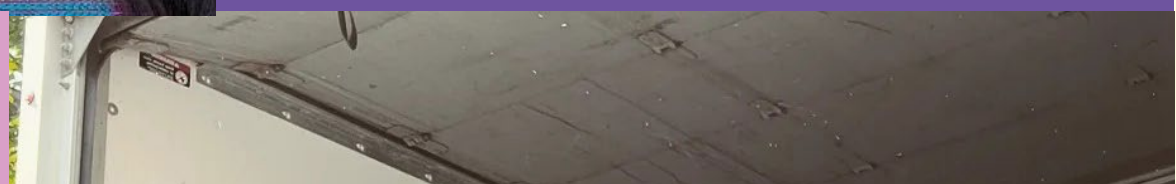
Growing up in Bella Vista, Rosalba herself was a witness of the difficulties of living for not only the farmers, but for the whole community.

Just like many other Mexicans her age, she decided to **leave and try her luck across the borders, in the United-States,** hoping to find a better quality of life.

With very little schooling, Rosalba ended up working for a big fast-food chain in California.

In the end, this important chapter has helped her **develop an entrepreneurial spirit,** acquire the tools and the knowledge in sales and consumers' habits, all the while witnessing changes in the coffee industry.

Balam Coffee



Project

Thanks to Balam Coffee Project's mediation, we discovered a determined, brave and passionate entrepreneur : Rosalba Cifuentes.

Little by little, **she increases the value of her native lands and of her peers' labour.**

The goals of Rosalba & Balam :

Traceability

by selling the coffee of 110 female farmers under the name Café de Mujeres and sharing information related to them, Mayan Harvest Coffee **prove their comittment and ensure ethical purchases.**

Ressources

Bella Vista is a remote town and often lacks resources, such as pharmaceuticals so their goal is simple : to **set aside a part of the profits made with coffee sales and provide the farmers with health products.**

The Café de Mujeres

« This blend presents a well-balanced taste »

The three varietals composing the Café de Mujeres lot are pretty common in Central America: **Typica, Bourbon et Caturra.**

Each varietal having distinct predispositions, this blend presents a **well-balanced taste,** where sugars and acids naturally harmonize.

As an espresso or a filter coffee, we **especially appreciate its delicate maple and vanilla aromas** as well as its sweet notes of fruit compote and pastries.

BUY

Photos Credits:
Mayan Harvest Coffee
Balam Coffee Project
Café Union

The **Union Microlot** series seeks to promote entrepreneurs with noble initiatives and whose coffees really stand out as well as paying respectful prices considering the labour required and the quality that results from it.

Balam and Rosalba's relationship is based on honest values and on goals we hope to see materialize.