





Producer: CHICHUPAK Co-op

Coop Size: 22 ha total

Region: Chichupak, Coban, Baja

Verapaz, Guatemala

Process: Washed

**Altitude:** 1,600 – 2,000 masl

**Varieties:** Bourbon, Catuai & Caturro

**Harvest:** December - Apri

## THE CUP

Bodu



Acidity



**SCA Score** 





Flavour: Brilliant complex acidity supported with honey sweetness





## The Producers

Chichupak members are very close to each other, they are really one big family, most of them know each other for their entire lives. Faustín Chen is the leader, recognized by everyone in the community, he and Mario Sic president of the association works very hard to increase the quality of the production of the local producers and as a consequence have better incomes that allows them to improve their livelihood. This community lives from their agriculture products, there are many small subsistence farms in the region. Coffee is one of the most important cash crops and their connection with the outside world.

## The Art of Production

They take really good care to their farms from the seedlings, until the harvest time when they select the best coffee cherries for processing. The coffee production in the community is very traditional. Once the coffee is picked they take their coffee cherry to the coops mill where every member can access to depulpers, fermentation tanks, wash channels, African beds driers, and patios. The Chichupak mill has its own honey water treatment plant.

## The Region

Chichupak comes from the words "chi" that means place or where and "chupak" that means soap plant, "Soap plant place" because they planted Achi in the past, this plant is used to make soap. This community is one of the few that preserves their culture intact, since the Rabinal Leb king of the Mayan kingdom in the region they are very aware of the history of their ancestors, the struggles, and victories, they respect his elders, they believe in their wisdom. Most of them still wear the traditional indigenous clothes, women wear a long colorful skirt and a blouse handmade, men wear a white cotton pants with a red belt.

The community is 100 kilometers from the capital city, although it is not that far, it is not easy to get to. The entrance to Chichupak is a pine lined dirt road that sits at the top of one of the highest peaks in Baja Verapaz (one of the departments that make up the Coban region). You must go through several villages and dirt roads, but once you get there you get immerse in a different and magical world.

