



Colombia La Loma, Buesaco-Narino

tropical fruit - dark chocolate - orange

SOUTH AMERICA



Producer: 400 small growers



Region: Buesaco, Narino



Cultivar: Caturra, Colombia, Typica



Processing: Fully Washed



Elevation: 1800 - 2200 masl



Harvest: Aug-Nov / March-May



Alianza Cafe association



Road to the association



This regional blend from Buesaco, Narino comes from the Alianza Café association. In 2010 and 2012 two growers from the Buesaco region won the Colombian Cup of Excellence. With this, it became clear that the region had potential to be sold and marketed as true specialty coffee, not only for small premiums for certifications.

A group of 17 growers formed the Grupo Empresarial Buesaco association which focused on the commercialization of their specialty coffees. The association grew, and quickly became too large to manage, they split into two separate groups and Alianza Café was born. Today Alianza is managed by six members of the Benavides family, who are committed to run the association with transparency and with the final goal of improving the income of the growers that participate in their programs.

In the 1990's and early 2000's the region was controlled by the FARC guerrillas as the altitude in much of the municipality was perfect for growing opium poppy plants and coca. To this day's most of the growers we work in this region become coy and awkward when asked them what they did during this time.

The guerillas were forced out of Buesaco almost 10 years ago, and it is now completely safe to conduct normal economic activities such as growing and buying coffee. We deeply believe that specialty coffee market serves a special propose in ensuring this region is prosperous and its future is one of peace and not of recurrent conflict.