




Timor-Leste

The Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste has had a long history to achieve independence and to employ coffee as a national economic export. The island of Timor was settled by the Portuguese in the early 16th century, and further invaded by the Dutch later that same century. They defined a border that would divide the island into East and West Timor, with West Timor eventually handed to Indonesia. It was not until 1975 when East Timor, Timor-Leste, declared their independence from Portugal, but this declaration led to a civil war that would see a third of the population perish and an invasion from Indonesia. In 1998, a new president was sworn in, and the following year he held a referendum. The vote saw a 90% participation rate with 78.5% of the people voting for the independence of Timor-Leste over autonomy from Indonesia. The nation was thrown into more turmoil with the pro-Indonesia militia taking action, and after global pressure, the UN deployed a force of 'blue berets'.

After time, the country voted in their constituents, and in May 2002, they released the Timor-Leste Constitution on the same day they were given national sovereignty.

Today, Timor-Leste is an independent nation. The country is split into 13 municipalities and are home to a diverse range of indigenous groups, languages and cultures that are ever evolving. The land is mountainous and fertile, and Project Origin are proud to work with our partners to share the flavours of these mountains and these independent peoples with the wider coffee world.



Coffee was first introduced to Timor-Leste by the Portuguese in the early 1800s, and today, it is an important product for the nations economy. Coffee is classified by the municipality from which it grew. The structure of Timor-Leste geography is broken down as follows:

Country: Timor-Leste

Municipality: 13 municipalities across the nation, such as Manatuto

Administrative Post: 67 administrative posts spread through the municipalities. Each municipality has one administrative post designated as the municipality's capital city

Suku: village within each administrative post

Aldeias: hamlets within each suku

Bairos: neighbourhoods within each aldeia or suku

Project Origin is proudly in partnership with Timorese specialty coffee producers Kape Diem, Australian profit-for-purpose consultancy 1LM, and the Australian Government through the Palladium managed Business Partnership Platform (BPP) to improve and promote the coffee industry in Timor-Leste.

The goals of this partnership are to:

- 1.** increase both the volume and quality of specialty grade coffee production, to establish a sustainable coffee export business for the Timor-Leste economy, and
- 2.** improve the sustainability of coffee production in Timor-Leste by addressing three main environmental impacts in coffee processing: power consumption, water consumption and waste-water contamination, and
- 3.** build women's roles within this sector, enable their asset growth, provide training and skill development, as well as introduce steps to allowing women more recognition and ownership in their roles of coffee production.

Our partnership will see this project across three years, but Project Origin are committed to furthering these goals for longer. We are building direct relationships with Kape Diem and the producers they work with to establish long-term beneficial trade connections that will see Timor-Leste on the same platform as many other specialty grade coffee producing countries. We believe the quality and the flavours are there, and we want to share these successes with the world.



Cherries ripening – Manatuto - Timor-Leste



Manatuto

Producer	Fanofo Group
Municipality	Manatuto
Administrative Post	Laclubar
Altitude	1200 - 1400 m
Harvest	July - August

About Manatuto

The name of the municipality Manatuto is a Portuguese approximation for the local Tetum and Galoli language word of Manatutu, which means “pecking birds”. It is one of two municipalities to touch the sea both to the north of the country and to the south. Through this area, the terrain is mountainous and rocky. Mount Maubere sits right near the centre, and nestled below that, to the east, is the administrative post of Laclubar.

Laclubar is situated in a remote part of Manatuto, and can prove difficult to access, which has resulted in the coffee from this area being relatively unused for a long time. With our on the ground partners, Kape Diem, we have access to this very interesting cove on the slopes of Mount Maubere and the coffees that grow there in order to provide you with this Regional offering. The group that collects and processes the beans have named themselves Fanofo, short for Fatuk No Foho, which translates to “rock and mountain”. Considering the cherries they harvest grow amongst the rocky hillsides of mountainous Manatuto, we thought this seemed to be an apt name.

Regional Manatuto

Varietal: Timor Hybrid

Process: Washed

Lot: FNF-A



Processing Details

- o Cherries are harvested by the Fanofo Group
- o Cherries are left to ferment for 36-48 hours
- o Once fermentation is complete beans are fully washed to remove all mucilage
- o Beans are laid on African drying beds under sun
- o Drying typically takes 14 days
- o Moisture content is reduced to 13%
- o Dried beans are collected by Kape Diem and sorted by bean size to create this regional offering. This offering is bean size 17
- o Sorted beans are stored in parchment in Grainpro bags in a closed warehouse until milling and export preparation