



KENYA AA FAQ ECOTACT

Notes: MANDARIN ORANGE, PLUM, RHUBARB, HERBAL, BRIGHT

ORIGIN INFORMATION

Grower	Various smallholder farmers
Variety	SL28, SL34, Ruiru 11 and Batian
Region	Kenya
Harvest	November-December
Altitude	1600 - 2200 masl
Soil	Volcanic loam
Process	Fully washed and dried on raised beds
Certification:	Conventional

BACKGROUND DETAILS

Many of us are accustomed to Kenya coffees being organized and sold in very small volumes that correspond to one specific estate or washing station (known as “factory” in Kenya) and one specific physical prep. While single-factory lots certainly dominate the highest quality tier, coffee exports as a whole in Kenya reflect the distribution of most producing countries elsewhere: as a wide triangle, with microlots at the top and bulk volumes of various transparency and quality standards comprising the larger, more efficient shipments. Kenya, working the way it does, means the microlot segment is proportionally large compared to other origins. But it rests upon, and interacts with, a bulk market, nonetheless. Each year Royal Coffee invests in select bulk lots with very specific physical and quality preparations, in addition to the microlot work. These coffees provide targeted profiles and roasting consistency over larger volumes and

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longer periods. There are myriad ways to build coffees like these and considering the assertive attributes of Kenya's coffee as a whole, each one is naturally a little different. This AA FAQ is a combination of processed coffee from select producing groups across Kenya's central counties. "FAQ" in Kenya stands for "fair to average quality" and is a cup quality designation rather than a physical grade. So, combined with the physical grade, (in this case "AA" for the country's larger screen sizes, 17-18) Kenya is able to offer interchangeable physical preparations and cup qualities from throughout the country. Within this classification system, each exporter's quality team is responsible for selecting appropriate coffees that fit the system's expectations. But of course, no two final blends will be alike.