

## SANTA CRUZ

**Coffee Name:** Santa Cruz

**Country:** Guatemala

**Municipality:** Antigua

**Farm Owner:** Maria Regina Ponce de Leal

**Farmer Manager:** Luis Pedro Zelaya Zamora

**Processing Site:** Beneficio Bella Vista

**Importer:** The Collaborative Coffee Source

**Exporter:** Zelcafe

**Variety:** Bourbon, Caturra

**Process:** Washed

**Elevation:** 1600-1950 masl

**Harvest Season:** January-April, peak late-February to mid-March

**Tasting Notes:** Crème Caramel, Toasted Nuts, Lime Curd

Antigua, Guatemala is situated in a pleasant valley surrounded by three large volcanoes: Acatenango and Volcán de Fuego to the west; to the south, Volcán de Agua, also called Hunapú by the indigenous Kakchikel Mayas. The Bella Vista farm, wet/dry mill, and export facility sits at the foot of Volcán de Agua, on the outskirts of the town of Antigua. Maria Ponce del Leal's farm of neatly spaced coffee plants and carefully planted shade trees overlooks the city. It's managed by Luis Pedro Zelaya, of Beneficio Bella Vista (see below).

Antiguan coffees grow in an ideal climate: rich and fertile soil, sporadically replenished with nutrients by Volcán de Fuego; sunny days with low humidity and cool evenings; high elevations.

### In the Cup

The regional profile tends to spices, florals, cocoa, and toasted nuts. Our Santa Cruz lot follows on the nuttiness and some sweet spices, but really shines with warming notes of heavily browned sugars and toasted nuts. It has a gentle and sweet malic acidity, carried by a smooth and creamy texture.

## OTHER TALKING POINTS

### Bella Vista

The mill and farm is led by Luis Pedro Zelaya Zamora, a fourth-generation coffee producer, who shifted the company's focus on commercial production and exports to specialty coffee and microlots starting in 2000. The Bella Vista

team support their local communities by providing jobs for as many people as possible, maintaining and developing high standards of processing, negotiating good prices on exports, and by managing many of the fincas they buy coffee from. This wet/dry mill and farm has been CCS's exclusive partner in Guatemala since 2013.

\*\*Dulce Barrera, Bella Vista's QC manager, placed 4th at World Cup Taster's Competition this year!\*\*