

Parejo Spec Sheets







PAREJO

the benchmark of Chihuahuan spirits



Parejo is the term used by a vinatero to describe when a sotol is perfect. They read the ABV of the spirit by passing it from one cuerno to another. They adjust by adding spring water until the perlas form from the center. Each expression by Parejo is a result of generations of experience, and the resulting sotol and lechuquillas are exquisite - like a work of art.







Parejo is founded by Jorge Caldera, who has devoted 13 years to studying the native spirits of Chihuahua, throughout that time meeting producers and building friendships. For many years, vinatas were considered illegal by the government. Because of this, Jorge found that a shared struggle existed among the maestros. Unfortunately, their craft was considered taboo.

He first found himself with maestros from the desert, in hidden towns seemingly in the middle of nowhere but connected through the joyous simplicity of their lives. Later, he went to the forests and spent time with maestros who held a long and rich history in sotol production. He absorbed their stories and they became a sort of extended family for him. He then encountered maestros from the tropical areas of Chihuahua who continue to craft lechuguilla using traditional methods. All of these experiences added to his understanding, appreciation, and love for the spirits of his homeland.

The goal of Parejo from the outset was to recapture the historical taste of sotol, which have become like an endangered species. Conversations with vinateros revealed a recurring term: "PAREJO." It became clear that this word was used to describe great sotol, and Jorge wanted to share that perfection. He works directly with the producers, immersing himself in every aspect of sotol and lechuguilla production - from the plant to the perlas.

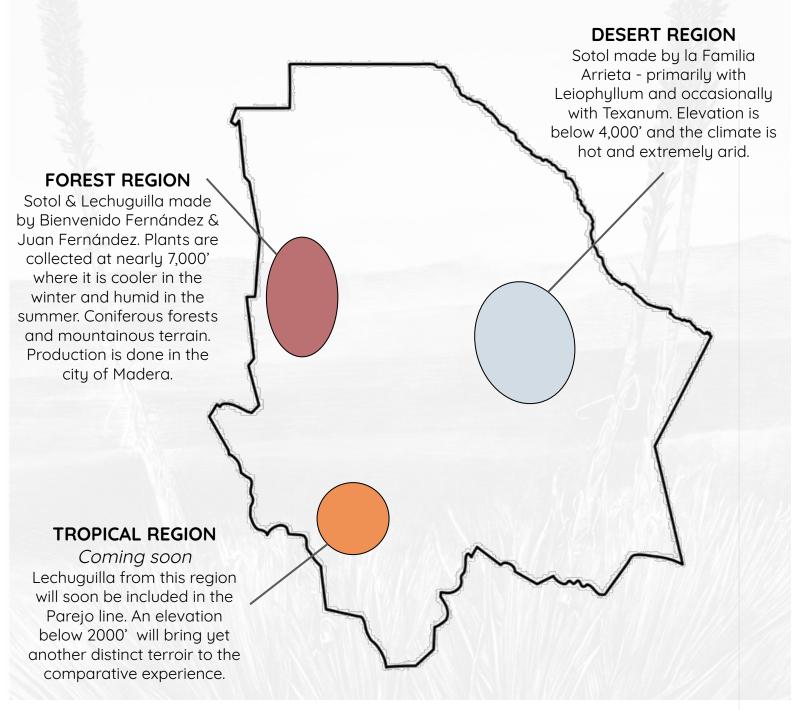


PAREJO

the benchmark of Chihuahuan spirits



Terroir and production style dictate the captivating profiles of Sotol and Lechuguilla. Parejo celebrates the regionality of plant species and the individuality of producers and their practice. There are three general regions for these spirits in Chihuahua, each with their own personality. We encourage you to explore how theses influences affect your experience.





FAMILIA ARRIETA - LEIOPHYLLUM DESERT SOTOL

MAESTRO VINATEROS - Chuy Arrieta, 4th generation

MAESTRO TUMBADOR - Mario Arrieta, 4th generation

PLANT - 100% wild Dasylirion Leiophyllum (the sotol plant)

VINATA - Aldama, Chihuahua, MX

CLIMATE - Extremely arid, little precipitation, elevation 3,800'

PLANT MATURITY - Madurado en verde 15 years

ROAST - 3-5 days in an boveda horno with poplar wood, covered with volcanic stone

CRUSH - Mechanical

WILD FERMENTATION - 7-10 days with ambient yeast in stainless steel & wood

DISTILLATION - Slowly distilled 2x in an alembic still with a copper bottom & stainless steel top & condenser, fired by poplar & mesquite wood

ADJUSTMENT METHOD - With colas & well water until it is parejo **TASTING NOTES** -

AROMA - Chocolate, dried chilis, clay

TASTE - Charred nuts, pineapple, bitter greens

TEXTURE - Friendly with a slight prickle











BIENVENIDO FERNÁNDEZ -CEDROSANUM

DESERT SOTOL

MAESTRO VINATERO - Bienvenido Fernández, 5th generation

MAESTRO TUMBADOR - Cruz, 1st generation

PLANT - 100% wild Dasylirion Cedrosanum (the sotol plant)

VINATA - Madera, Chihuahua, MX

CLIMATE - Hot summers & mild, dry winters, elevation 4,250'

PLANT MATURITY - Madurado en verde 15 years

ROAST - 3 days in an underground conical horno with pine wood, covered with volcanic stone

CRUSH - Mechanical

WILD FERMENTATION - 7-10 days in stainless steel, tomba, & pine lined pits

DISTILLATION - Stainless steel alembic with a copper condenser first with pine wood & then with gas

ADJUSTMENT METHOD - With colas until it is parejo

TASTING NOTES -

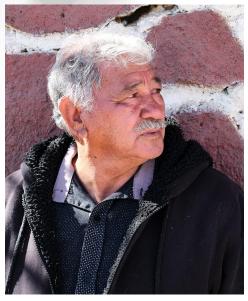
AROMA - Banana pudding, pine, wet earth

TASTE - Citrus, red hots, walnuts

TEXTURE - Enticing, complex, chewy











BIENVENIDO FERNÁNDEZ -WHEELERI

FOREST SOTOL

MAESTRO VINATERO - Bienvenido Fernández, 5th generation

MAESTRO TUMBADOR - Cruz, 1st generation

PLANT - 100% wild Dasylirion Wheeleri (the sotol plant)

VINATA - Madera, Chihuahua, MX

CLIMATE - Borders coniferous forests & arid high desert, humid summers but cold & dry winters, elevation 6,900'

PLANT MATURITY - Madurado en verde 15 years

ROAST - 3 days in an underground conical horno with pine wood, covered with volcanic stone

CRUSH - Mechanical

WILD FERMENTATION - 7-10 days in stainless steel, tomba, & pine lined pits

DISTILLATION - Stainless steel alembic with a copper condenser, first with pine wood & then with gas

ADJUSTMENT METHOD - With colas until it is parejo

TASTING NOTES -

AROMA - Orange zest, rosemary, juniper

TASTE - Pine sap, maple syrup, Lime pith

TEXTURE - Sticky, idling, satisfying











JUAN FERNÁNDEZ - WHEELERI FOREST SOTOL

MAESTRO VINATERO - Juan Fernández, 5th generation

MAESTRO TUMBADOR - Cruz, 1st generation

PLANT - 100% wild Dasylirion Wheeleri (the sotol plant)

VINATA - Madera, Chihuahua, MX

CLIMATE - Coniferous forests, humid summers but cold & dry winters, elevation 5,000' to 7,000'

PLANT MATURITY - Madurado en verde 15 years

ROAST - 3 days in an underground conical horno with pine wood, covered with volcanic stone

CRUSH - Mechanical

WILD FERMENTATION - 7-10 days in stainless steel, tomba, & pine lined pits

DISTILLATION - Stainless steel alembic with a copper condenser, first with pine wood & then with gas

ADJUSTMENT METHOD - With colas until it is parejo

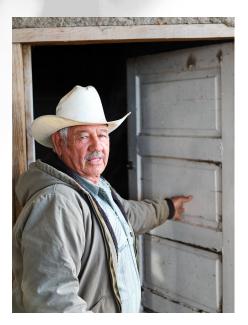
TASTING NOTES -

AROMA - Ripe tropical fruit, pencil shavings, floral

TASTE - Baked ham, creamed corn, lemon

TEXTURE - Tingly, lactic, energetic











JUAN FERNÁNDEZ - CENIZO FOREST LECHUGUILLA

MAESTRO VINATERO - Juan Fernández, 5th generation

MAESTRO TUMBADOR - Cruz, 1st generation

PLANT - 100% wild Maguey Cenizo (the agave plant)

VINATA - Madera, Chihuahua, MX

CLIMATE - Coniferous forests, humid summers but cold & dry winters, elevation 5,000' to 7,000'

PLANT MATURITY - Madurado en verde 15 years

ROAST - 3 days in an underground conical horno with pine wood, covered with volcanic stone

CRUSH - Mechanical

WILD FERMENTATION - 7-10 days in stainless steel, tomba, & pine lined pits

DISTILLATION - Stainless steel alembic with a copper condenser, first with pine wood & then with gas

ADJUSTMENT METHOD - With colas until it is parejo **TASTING NOTES** -

AROMA - Wet slate, jerky, ripe papaya

TASTE - Salt water taffy, watermelon, flint

TEXTURE - Mineral dry, oily mid-palate, mouthwatering











JUAN FERNÁNDEZ - ENSAMBLE FOREST LECHUGUILLA

MAESTRO VINATERO - Juan Fernández, 5th generation

MAESTRO TUMBADOR - Cruz, 1st generation

PLANTS - Wild Dasylirion Wheeleri / Wild Maguey Cenizo (the sotol & agave plants)

VINATA - Madera, Chihuahua, MX

CLIMATE - Coniferous forests, humid summers but cold & dry winters, elevation 6,900'

PLANT MATURITY - Madurado en verde 15 years

ROAST - 3 days in an underground conical horno with pine wood, covered with volcanic stone

CRUSH - Mechanical

WILD FERMENTATION - 7-10 days in stainless steel, tomba, & pine lined pits

DISTILLATION - Stainless steel alembic with a copper condenser, first with pine wood & then with gas

ADJUSTMENT METHOD - With colas until it is parejo

TASTING NOTES -

AROMA - Warming spices, tropical fruits, browned butter

TASTE - Woodsy, eucalyptus, pine needles

TEXTURE - Balanced, kind, refreshing











BIENVENIDO FERNÁNDEZ - ENSAMBLE

FOREST LECHUGUILLA

MAESTRO VINATERO - Bienvenido Fernández, 5th generation

MAESTRO TUMBADOR - Cruz, 1st generation

PLANTS - Wild Dasylirion Wheeleri / wild Maguey de Cerro (the sotol & agave plants)

VINATA - Madera, Chihuahua, MX

CLIMATE - Borders coniferous forests & arid high desert, humid summers but cold & dry winters, elevation 6,900'

PLANT MATURITY - Madurado en verde 15 years

ROAST - 3 days in an underground conical horno with pine wood, covered with volcanic stone

CRUSH - Mechanical

WILD FERMENTATION - 7-10 days in stainless steel, tomba, & pine lined pits

DISTILLATION - Stainless steel alembic with a copper condenser, first with pine wood & then with gas

ADJUSTMENT METHOD - With colas until it is parejo

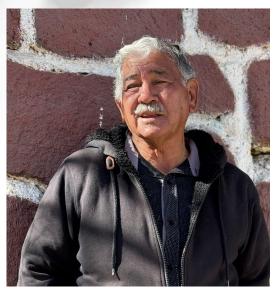
TASTING NOTES -

AROMA - Orange zest, rosemary, juniper

TASTE - Pine sap, maple syrup, Lime pith

TEXTURE - Sticky, idling, satisfying











BIENVENIDO FERNÁNDEZ - MAGUEY DE CERRO

FOREST LECHUGUILLA

MAESTRO VINATERO - Bienvenido Fernández, 5th generation

MAESTRO TUMBADOR - Cruz, 1st generation

PLANTS - 100% wild Maguey de Cerro (the agave plants)

VINATA - Madera, Chihuahua, MX

CLIMATE - Borders coniferous forests & arid high desert, humid summers but cold & dry winters, elevation 6,900'

PLANT MATURITY - Madurado en verde 15 years

ROAST - 3 days in an underground conical horno with pine wood, covered with volcanic stone

CRUSH - Mechanical

WILD FERMENTATION - 7-10 days in stainless steel, tomba, & pine lined pits

DISTILLATION - Stainless steel alembic with a copper condenser, first with pine wood & then with gas

ADJUSTMENT METHOD - With colas until it is parejo

TASTING NOTES -

AROMA - Orange zest, rosemary, juniper

TASTE - Pine sap, maple syrup, Lime pith

TEXTURE - Sticky, idling, satisfying











COLECCIÓN PAREJO is a special series of releases

by Parejo that, for one reason or another, are designated into the collection. Each rare and tiny batch is made as an expression of tradition, creativity, inspiration and joy.

#01 - AROMA FA-COL-01

HERMANOS ARRIETA Released fall of 2024

Sotol de Aroma is the masterful creation of Maestro Eduardo, the revered teacher and grandfather of the Arrieta Brothers. Through years of distilling expertise, Eduardo knew that the heart of the distillation holds many unique nuances, with each segment offering its own distinct character. He divided the heart into four sections and found that the third section, when isolated, revealed the most extraordinary flavors and textures. This special discovery became known as Sotol de Aroma.

Inspired by Eduardo's journey, Jorge embraced the story behind Sotol de Aroma, and now, for the first time ever, Parejo is proud to offer this remarkable experience.

AROMA - This a special cut from just past the halfway point in the hearts, yielding only about ~22 liters

MAESTRO VINATEROS - Chuy Arrieta, 4th generation

MAESTRO TUMBADOR - Mario Arrieta, 4th generation

PLANT - 100% wild Dasylirion Leiophyllum (the sotol plant)

VINATA - Aldama, Chihuahua, MX

CLIMATE - Extremely arid, little precipitation, elevation 3,800'

PLANT MATURITY - Madurado en verde 15 years

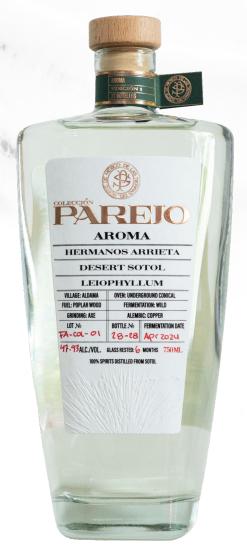
ROAST - 3 days in an underground conical horno with poplar wood, covered with volcanic stone

CRUSH - By hand with axe

WILD FERMENTATION - 7-10 days with ambient yeast in stainless steel & wood

DISTILLATION - Slow & steady in copper alembic fired by poplar wood

ADJUSTMENT METHOD - None, it is direct from the still





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#02 - CARNEY AP-COL-02

ARRIETA y POLO Released fall of 2024

After years of working closely with vinateros, Jorge Caldera often heard them speak of a special sotol - a sort of legendary recipe they stopped producing. The story goes that this is the unique sotol was reserved for celebrations, crafted only to mark significant milestones in their lives.

To revive the tradition, Jorge and the Arrieta family sought out the wisdom of their elders. It is given the name CARNEY in honor of the main ingredient in the lost recipe: carne (meat). This tradition now continues on through the hands of Parejo vinateros.

To make Carney, for the second distillation, the vinateros suspend the meat inside the still and infuse the vino de sotol with local and seasonal fruits and spices. These additions add to the texture, aroma, and flavor of these ancestral spirits. This edition was a collaboration between two vinateros. Polo Derma made the first distillation in El Potrero del Llano in 2020 with locally sourced leiophyllum. It was glass rested until February of 2022, when the Familia Arrieta carefully distilled it a second time with oranges, star anise, and goat.

CARNEY - This batch is distilled with goat, orange blossom and star anise in the second distillation

MAESTRO VINATEROS - Hermanos Arrietas y Polo Derma

PLANT - 100% wild Dasylirion Leiophyllum (the sotol plant)

VINATA - Aldama, Chihuahua, MX

CLIMATE - Extremely arid, little precipitation, elevation 3,800'

PLANT MATURITY - Madurado en verde 15 years

ROAST - 3 days in an underground conical horno with poplar wood, covered with volcanic stone

CRUSH - By hand with axe

WILD FERMENTATION - 7-10 days with ambient yeast in stainless steel & wood

DISTILLATION - Slow & steady in copper alembic fired by poplar wood

ADJUSTMENT METHOD - With colas & well water until it is parejo

