



Kirema (GrainPro)



3800 smallholder farmers contribute to the Kirema Washing Station Cooperative: 182 directly to the station, and 3618 contribute to 35 different collection centers.

Other crops in the area include bananas, beans, sweet potatoes, and cassava.

Deep in the heart of Africa is the tiny country of Burundi, and deep in Burundi is Café Imports. We have been trekking to this tiny country south of Rwanda on Lake Tanganyika since 2006. We have logged multiple trips so far, and have spent about three months total on the ground. We have really enjoyed passing along our findings and experience: Our many trips have not been without results. We've cupped coffees from more than 50 washing stations over the years, pinpointing stations with the best cupping coffees.

Our Kayanza, Burundi offerings are part of a Café Imports project where a quality premium is paid above the normal "market rate," and this premium is paid directly back to the farmers. Burundi is just south of Rwanda but miles and miles away in the cup. The two countries share much: the same tribes, the same coffee varieties, and a similar history, but the cups are not even related. This is a case of terroir.

ID# 6874

Origin	Burundi
Region	Kayanza
Farm	Gacokwe Washing Station Cooperative
Variety	Bourbon, Jackson, Mibirzi
Altitude	1650 masl
Proc. Method	Fully Washed



While Rwandan coffees cup with lovely sugary and lemon citrus notes, the mountains of Burundi produce a deep fig and fruity coffee—almost a Malbec of a cup highlighted by a firm supporting acidity.

Coffee in Burundi is a logistics challenge—even for the best of us. It is a particularly poor country, tied with Congo for the lowest GDP in Africa. The tiny landlocked nation also shares the same tribal conflicts that Rwanda has experienced; unlike in Rwanda, however, they've never been reconciled. In spite of all this, our work and investment on the ground over the years has allowed us to consistently get the coffees we are proud of and that many of you have grown to love.

— Jason Long

For more information about coffee production in Burundi, visit our [Burundi origin page](#).

Location Map

Gallery Kirema (GrainPro)

