



RAYU ESPADIN MEZCAL

The distillation process of Mezcal Rayu Espadin Joven is deeply rooted in tradition and passion, inspired by the ancient legend of its origin. The story begins with a thunderstorm in the pre-Hispanic Oaxacan fields, where a maguey plant was struck by lightning. This fateful event is believed to have cooked the heart of the maguey for the very first time, giving birth to the revered spirit of mezcal—known as the "elixir of the gods." The name "Rayu" draws from this mystical beginning, translating to "rayo," which means "lightning bolt" in the Zapotec language, paying homage to the powerful forces of nature and Oaxacan culture.

The distillation of Mezcal Rayu Espadin Joven follows a meticulous, artisanal process passed down through generations. In the village of San Juan del Río, Oaxaca, maestro mezcalero Isaias Martinez Juan oversees this craft. The journey starts with harvesting the Espadin agave, the heart of which is cooked in an underground volcanic conical oven. This ancient method imparts rich, smoky flavors to the agave as it is slow-roasted beneath the earth, much like the legendary maguey struck by lightning.

Once the agave is fully cooked, it is crushed using a traditional horse-drawn tahona—a large stone wheel—slowly breaking down the roasted agave fibers to extract their precious juices. These extracted juices are then fermented naturally in pine wood vats, allowing wild yeasts to interact with the agave, creating complex layers of flavor.

The next step in the process is distillation. The fermented mash is transferred to copper pot stills, where it undergoes double distillation. This step refines the mezcal, concentrating its unique flavors. Rayu Espadin Joven emerges as a smooth and vibrant spirit, with fruity notes of banana, mango, and pineapple, complemented by a subtle hint of caramel.

Each bottle of Mezcal Rayu carries with it the legacy of its origin—a lightning strike, a maguey cooked by the gods, and a tradition that continues to celebrate the soul of Oaxaca.

