

Name Tequila
Country of origin Mexico
Country Malaysia

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Source: MyIPO

Main characteristics/features

Geographical area

Tequila is a regional alcoholic beverage obtained by distillation of the 'mostos' of the agave variety Tequila Weber Blue which belongs to the agavaceae family. The history of diversification of the agave under cultivation began at least 9000 years ago. The principal characteristics of the agave variety Tequilana Weber Blue are long, blue, fibrous leaves, lanceolate in shape. The part used for production of Tequila is the head.

The alcoholic beverage can only be called Tequila if it's been produced within 181 municipalities located in five Mexican states namely Jalisco, Guanajuato, Michoacán, Nayarit and Tamaulipas. The areas of production of the 'Tequila' plant are sited at an altitude extending from 600 to 2500 masl. The temperatures range from 28 to 50 C with annual rainfall of 600 to 1800 mm.

Production/processing

Link between product and territory

The making of Tequila begins with 'Jima' which is the cutting of the leaves of the agave Tequilana Weber Blue variety down to its base, to keep only the head or heart of the agave. This done by a 'Jimador' who cuts the leaves using a tool called a 'Coa'. Then the agave 'pineapples' are cooked to transform their starches into sugars that are easily fermented. This process is called cooking or hydrolysis. The formulation of Tequila depends on the category that will be produced. Next the sugars are transformed using yeast together with ethyl alcohol and carbon dioxide. Distillation is the process by which different components of the fermentation are separated. The next step is bottling and ageing.

Mexicans have long identified Tequila not only as their national drink, but also a unique symbol of their culture and environment. The Agave can only be planted and harvested within limits of a specific region, namely the Region of the Appellation of Origin of Tequila. Historically in April 1530, the current town of Tequila came to be called Santiago de Tequila by a Spanish conqueror. When the Spanish ran out of their brandy, they began to distil the fermented juice from the agave. Tequila was declared an Appellation of Origin by the Mexican Government in 1974.

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Type of product Wine
Control body
File number GI2015-00002
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