



## **Zege Forest grown coffee**

*Zege Forest grown Coffee* is our company's new raw coffee. Around Lake Tana in Zege, coffee has been growing from time immemorial. Nevertheless, this region does not belong to the classic producing regions of Ethiopia. Originally, the coffee of the lake area was forest grown coffee, but due to the felling of the recent decades, this historic coffee has almost disappeared around Lake Tana. The only exception is the Zege peninsula. Here, we find the biggest coherent woodland on Lake Tana; here the coffee grows in its original form. According to our inquiries, this is due to its' unique "sacred" origin. The saint "Betre Maryam" once divided his wand into three parts. From the head of it sprang the first coffee plants. This unique story is immortalized in a wall painting in one of the seven convents on Zege. Moreover, there is also an old book in which this special event is described. For these historic and religious reasons, still today there is no land cultivation in the conventional sense. Thus, the "sacred" coffee protects the forest and the forest protects the "sacred" coffee.

On Zege, coffee is really a special commodity. Traditionally, the natives and the friars of the convents cultivate the coffee for their own consumption and the local market with much awe. There are a lot of very different qualities, virtually everything is being collected and used. In the last four years (crop cycles) we have optimized harvesting and processing in co-operation with the native coffee farmers and cloisters, and so have created a wonderful *Zege Forest grow Coffee*. The coffee which thus developed in the course of time has already found important partners. InterAmerican coffee, of Neumann Gruppe (world's biggest raw coffee importer), is involved financially, logistically and technically in this exceptional coffee project. It is this engagement that enables the coffee to have the international appearance it merits. The project is also supported and facilitated by the *World-Habitat-Society*, which commits itself to the protection of the forest, the regional development and sustainable tourism as well as to the preservation and restoration of the monasteries and the graphic art of the peninsula, which partially originate from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. In the future, our *Zege forest grown Coffee* will be playing a part in all these activities, as through all these projects, this region will be sustainably strengthened and will thus also in the future enable the production of this wonderful and unique *Zege forest grown Coffee* with its "sacred" origin.

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Information on Zege: The dimension of the peninsula is about 3,5 x 5 km – there are approximately 9,500 inhabitants, of which about 3,000 live in the rural area of "Afaf". There are 7 monasteries on Zege. The coffee is cultivated in 1,850 metres above m.s.l., the harvest time is in February and March. *Zege forest grown Coffee* is an exclusive product of Stefan E. Bös and InterAmerican Coffee GmbH, developed in co-operation with all seven monasteries and the inhabitants of Zege.

Taste: Well-balanced and round, with full body and smooth, soft spiciness, fruity.

### **InterAmerican Coffee GmbH**

A Company of Neumann Kaffee Gruppe

Coffee Plaza · Am Sandtorpark 4

20457 Hamburg · Germany

Tel. +49 (40) 373367 · Fax +49 (40) 373123

iacinfo@iacoffee.de · www.iacoffee.de

Bankverbindung: Deutsche Bank

BLZ 200 700 00 · Kto. 5400239

Geschäftsführer: Mirella Cielek · Neil Barwick

Amtsgericht Hamburg · HRB 41534