



handmade products

Product Catalog



Welcome

Manos Cruceñas is a social enterprise store founded by Amigos de Santa Cruz has been working in the communities of Santa Cruz la Laguna since 1998. The store opened its doors in 2012 and currently provides employment opportunities to over 70 indigenous Mayan artisans across the six small communities that make up Santa Cruz la Laguna on Lake Atitlan.

Our artisans learn their skills through sewing, beading, weaving and crochet training programs in the CECAP Vocational Training Center run by Amigos de Santa Cruz. The store provides a direct opportunity for program graduates to begin earning an income from their craft. For many of our artisans, this is the first time in their life that they are earning an income of their own.

In addition to earning a fair wage for their products, our artisans also receive non-economic support. Nutrition classes, women's empowerment workshops and clean water filters help to improve their quality of life in the home.

Your purchase of Manos Cruceñas products provides opportunities which are otherwise unavailable to the indigenous women of Santa Cruz.

Thank you

for supporting Santa Cruz artisans and their families!

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"All the products available in colors and patterns shown in page 18"



Foundation

Amigos de Santa Cruz Foundation has been working in the communities of Santa Cruz la Laguna since 1998 fostering educational opportunities and economic empowerment.

To learn more visit:
www.amigosdesantacruz.org



Amigos Bag

The Amigos Bag is a convenient and stylish way to go shopping and travel! Made from upcycled jaspe fabric, this tote easily folds into its own 5"x7" draw-string sack with wooden beads which are conveniently attached to the inside of the bag so you will never lose it.

Available in the following color palettes: Brown, turquoise, blue and pink.
Machine Wash, Gentle Cycle.

AMIGOS BAG CODE: CCBAB001
SIZE: 17"x15", 30" Strap.



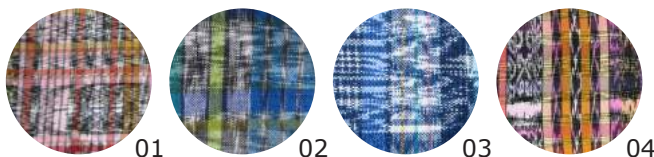
Jaspe Clutch Bag

A beautiful clutch bag made with upcycled jaspe fabric with black cotton lining. Perfect as a small purse, this versatile bag has both a front and back pocket.



Available in the color palettes shown below.
Machine Wash, Gentle Cycle.

JASPE CLUTCH BAG CODE: CCJ001
SIZE: 9"x5".



Huipil Change Purse

This convenient change purse is made of beautiful handmade huipil embroidery and has a second small pocket in the navy blue fabric on the back.



Available with four different embroidery styles from four Mayan villages in Guatemala; San Antonio Palopó, Nahualá, Chichicastenango and Santa Cruz as shown to the left. All the huipil patterns are unique and handmade so there will be some variation in design.

HUIPIL CHANGE PURSE CODE: CCMG003
JASPE CHANGE PURSE CODE: CCMJ001
SIZE: 5,5"x4,5".

Jaspe

Jaspe (pronounced "haspeh") is a traditional Guatemalan cotton/cotton-blend/rayon textile that is woven on a foot-loom. The fabric is traditionally used for women's skirts.

Jaspe patterns are created by a series of faint stripes formed by the arrangement of light, medium, and dark warp threads or by twisting together 2 threads of different colors. The fabric often has knotted "ikat" designs featuring local plants and animals.



Huipil

The huipil (pronounced "wheepel") is the traditional Guatemalan women's blouse. The basic fabric is usually handwoven on a backstrap loom and then embellished with hand or machine embroidery. Every region and village has specific fabric and embroidery designs in addition to what each woman adds of her own personal style.



Handwoven Shawls and Scarves

Our shawls and scarves are handwoven on a backstrap loom by experienced artisan weavers. They have a beautiful drape and texture, and are silky soft to the touch. Suitable for both men and women.

Available in 27 colors in either a single color shawls/scarf or mixed in a combination of your choice.

100% Rayon. Hand Wash.

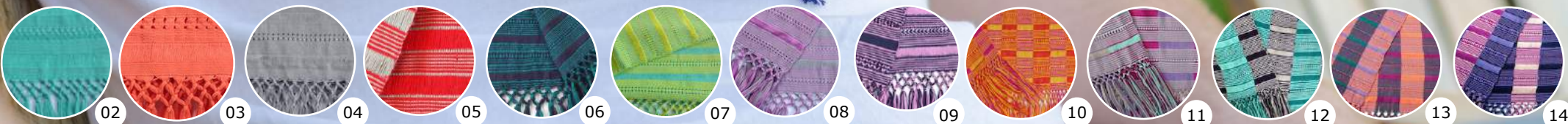
SHAWLS CODE: TCCHA001

SIZE: 20"x73" incl. hand-knotted fringe.

SCARVES CODE: TCBA002

SIZE: 10"x73" incl. hand-knotted fringe.

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Huipil Carry Bag

Made with upcycled traditional Mayan blouse embroidery, the Huipil Carry Bag is a versatile carry-all with a magnetic clasp and a handy inside pocket.

The navy blue bag is available with four different embroidery styles originating in four Mayan villages in Guatemala, as shown below. San Antonio Palopó, Nahualá, Chichicastenango, Santa Cruz. All the huipil patterns are unique and handmade so there will be some variation in design.

HUIPIL CARRY BAG CODE: CCBGE01
SIZE: 17,5"x18".



Crossbody Clutch Bag

This versatile small purse made from handmade huipil fabric is a great bag for everyday use, hiking or traveling.



CROSSBODY CLUTCH BAG CODE: CCBCP018

SIZE: 7"x5".

All products on this page are available in huipil fabric shown below. All the huipil patterns are unique and handmade so there will be some variation in design.



"Before I trained as an artisan with Manos Cruceñas I couldn't find work. Now I am making a steady income and can better support my two children."

— Espiritu, Single Mother and Manos Cruceñas Artisan



Huipil Clutch Bag

Handmade by Santa Cruz artisans, this clutch bag is made with upcycled navy blue fabric on the back and a piece of handmade huipil embroidery on the front. The inside is lined with black cotton. The bag comes with an extra pocket on the navy blue side and is perfect as a wallet or small purse.



HUIPIL CLUTCH BAG CODE: CCCG002

SIZE: 9"x5".



Cosmetic Bag

This cosmetic bag features handmade huipil embroidery, black cotton lining and a semi-rigid interior casing to make the bag robust and durable.

COSMETIC BAG CODE: CCCG001

SIZE: 10"x6,5".

Huipil Apron

The Huipil Apron takes our Jaspe Apron and embellishes the bodice with a swath of contrasting or matching huipil embroidery.

Five different jaspe color pallets are available or in plain navy blue, each featuring huipil embroidery from a Guatemalan highland community (jaspe and huipil combinations examples shown on the bottom). Or make your own color mix with the fabrics shown on page 18. Machine Wash, Gentle Cycle.

HUIPIL APRON CODE: CCGAB004

SIZE: 22,5"x29,5".

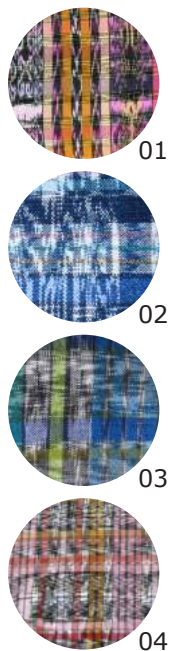




Kitchen Towel

These are not your ordinary kitchen towels! These attractive but durable towels come with a convenient hanging loop are just the thing to do the job and brighten up your kitchen.

CODE: Jaspe CCTC001, Navy Blue CCG002. SIZE: 17" x 20".



Jaspe Apron

Our aprons are crafted from soft, upcycled jaspe fabric that is available in four different color pallets. Each apron has a convenient double pocket and adjustable neck strap ensuring that one size fits most! Our aprons make lovely gifts for the host or hostess and are, of course, wonderful to gift to yourself!

Machine Wash, Gentle Cycle.
JASPE APRON CODE: CCGAB001
SIZE: 22,5" x 29,5".

Pot Holders and Oven Mitts



With a classic, effective design, soft cotton lining and beautiful jaspe fabric, they give a kitchen the feel of cooking in Guatemala. They are perfect to decorate your kitchen or make great gifts!

POT HOLDER CODE: CCAC001. SIZE: 7,5" x 7,5".
OVEN MITT CODE: Jaspe CCG001. Navy Blue CCG002. SIZE: 7,5" x 7,5".

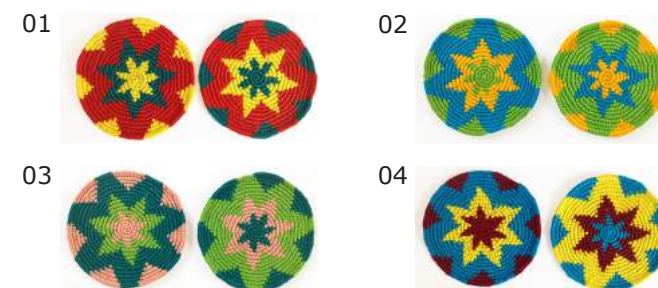


Crochet Coasters

Handmade by the women of Tzanjomel, these colorful crocheted coasters are the perfect accent to your dining table.

CROCHET COASTER CODE: CPVT001

SIZE: 4".



Crochet by the Women of Tzanjomel

Tzanjomel is a small Mayan village located high in the mountains overlooking Lake Atitlán.

Tzanjomel can only be accessed by foot and is largely cut off from outside economic and educational opportunities. The local female artisans have never attended school or learned to speak Spanish.



Tzanjomel artisans learned the art of crochet through a training program sponsored by Amigos de Santa Cruz. These women are now earning an income for the first time and are proud of their accomplishments. Your purchase of these beautiful crochet coasters provides the women of Tzanjomel with the opportunity to support themselves and their families.



The Story of the Backstrap Loom

Backstrap weaving has been practiced by indigenous artisans in the highlands of Guatemala for generations. According to Mayan mythology, weaving originated with the moon goddess Ixchel, who is often depicted seated at a backstrap loom.

Walk through any indigenous town in Guatemala today and you can see women weaving in their homes. One end of the loom is attached to a post or tree using a rope, and the other is attached to the weaver's body through a strap that wraps around the back, giving the technique its name. Most women begin learning to weave around age 7.



24 of our artisans use backstrap looms to create products for our store and clothing for use in their homes. The designs and colors used are often specific to a particular village. In Santa Cruz, those colors include deep red with yellow, purple and blue triangles embroidered to represent the volcanoes towering over Lake Atitlan. Local designs are worn proudly to identify each woman as an individual within her culture and her community, as well as communicating traditional Maya beliefs about the universe.

Woven Napkins (set of 4)



Handwoven on a backstrap loom by Santa Cruz artisans, Woven Napkins are perfect to brighten up a dining table and can match our festive Woven Placemats. Available in the four colors shown below.

WOVEN NAPKINS CODE: TCSS001
SIZE: 14"x14".

Woven Placemats (set of 2 or 4)



Our festive Manos Cruceñas placemats are just the thing to add some spice to your dining table! Woven by hand on a backstrap loom by our artisan weavers, these 100% cotton placemats come pre-washed and are color safe. Woven with high-quality cotton thread, each placemat is finished with a hand-knotted fringe.

WOVEN PLACEMATS
SIZE: 13"x19".

Woven Table Runner

Handwoven on a backstrap loom by artisan weavers, our Woven Table Runner is perfect for a long table or hung as a wall decoration. The pattern is inspired by a traditional women's blouse from Santa Cruz (right).



WOVEN TABLE RUNNER CODE: TCCM001
SIZE: 10"x100".

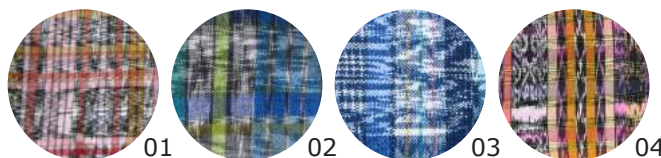
Jaspe Table Runner

Sewn from upcycled jaspe fabric, these table runners are a great accent to any dining table or home decoration. The table runner comes in 2 different sizes and match with our selection of placemats and napkins.



Available in the following color palettes: Brown, turquoise, blue, pink and navy blue.
Machine Wash, Gentle Cycle.

JASPE TABLE RUNNER SMALL CODE: CCTR001
SIZE: 12"x36".
JASPE TABLE RUNNER BIG CODE: CCTR002
SIZE: 12"x48".



Jaspe Napkins (set of 6)

Sewn from upcycled jaspe fabric or a solid blue, these napkins are soft and washable.

The napkins come in matching sets in one of the 4 jaspe color palettes shown below. Brown, turquoise, blue, pink and navy blue.
Machine Wash, Gentle Cycle.

JASPE NAPKINS CODE: CCSJ001
SIZE: 14"x14".



Jaspe Placemats (set of 6)

Sewn from upcycled jaspe fabric, these placemats are soft and washable. The placemats come in 4 different color palettes, but each set of placemats will be of the same fabric.

The placemats come in matching sets in one of the 4 jaspe color palettes shown below. Brown, turquoise, blue, pink and navy blue.
Machine Wash, Gentle Cycle.

PLACEMATS CODE: CCIJ001
SIZE: 14"x20".

Cushion Covers and Multi Huipil Cushion Cover

Our handmade Cushion Covers have a soft navy blue backing and feature the traditional embroidered pattern of the village dress from a Mayan community. They will liven up your seating areas and are sure to be a conversation starter.

All Cushion Covers have a hidden zipper closure in back for easy access to the insert. Available in the community patterns shown below. Machine Wash Inside Out, Gentle Cycle.

SIMPLE HUIPIL CODE: CCCOJ100. MULTI HUIPIL CODE: CCCOJ013.

SIZE: Fits a standard 18"x18" cushion (pillow insert not included).



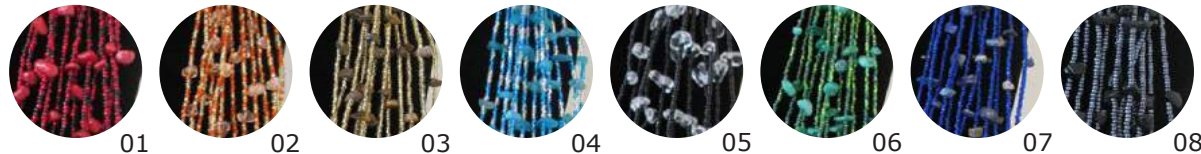
Cascade Necklace

The 12-strand Cascade Necklace is handmade by Santa Cruz artisans and features seed beads to create an elegant style. Made from high quality glass beads, the necklace sparkles in the sunlight. Longest strand approx. 34". Matching bracelets and earrings available.

Available in the colors shown below.

CODE: MCA011

SIZE: 34" Aprox.



Friendship Bracelets

Classic and colorful Friendship Bracelets available in a wide range of colors and 3 adjustable sizes. Made from high quality Czech beads.

CODE: MP8B002

SIZE: 8" end-to-end



Beaded Ornaments

Beaded Ornaments handmade by Santa Cruz artisans are great as a keychains, backpack decorations, Christmas tree ornaments and more. Made from glistening Czech seed beads, these ornaments can brighten up just about anything!

Available in a wide variety of shapes and colors like those shown below.



CODE: MLLA004



CODE: MLLA005



CODE: MLLE003





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Rope Necklace

The elegant Rope Necklace features bright colored Czech beads that sparkle in the sun. Slips easily over the head. Matching earrings and bracelet available.

Available in colors shown below.

ROPE NECKLACE CODE: MCF009
SIZE: 32" Aprox.



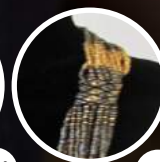
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Know about our fabrics

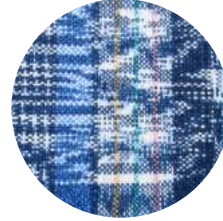
JASPE:



1. Brown



2. Turquoise

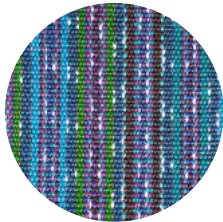


3. Blue

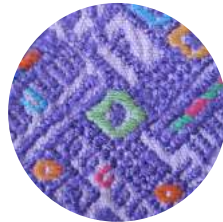


4. Pink

HUIPIL:



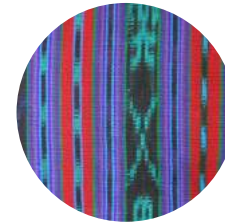
1. San Antonio Palopó



2. Nauhalá



3. Chichicastenango



4. Santa Cruz



5 Tecpan



6. Nebaj



7. Nahualá



8. Santiago Sac



9. Chimaltenango



Wholesale

We welcome wholesale customers and can offer up to a 25% reduction on retail prices depending on the size of your order. Our artisans are also available to design and produce custom orders to suit your needs.



We ship our products world-wide and work with local shipping companies in Guatemala to offer reasonable rates.

For more information on wholesale orders, shipping or custom products, please contact us at:

artesaniamigosdesantacruz.org

See you soon.

Photography:

 [Alejandro Torres Photography](#)
 [@alejandro_torres_photography](#)

Edition:

 [in/penelopelooou/](#)

Contact us

Thank You For Supporting the Artisans
of Santa Cruz!

+1 (360) 468-2057 (U.S.)

+502 5413 2591 (Guatemala)

www.store.amigosdesantacruz.org

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