



DRWakefield

EST.1970

Kenya

RUERA ESTATE



Kenya

RUERA ESTATE



<i>Country</i>	Kenya
<i>Region</i>	Kiambu
<i>District</i>	Ruiru
<i>Altitude</i>	1565 - 1600 masl
<i>Varietals</i>	Ruiru 11, SL28, K7, Batian
<i>Processes</i>	Natural, Washed
<i>Harvest</i>	November to January

Ruera Estate sits on the edge of one of the most influential places in the history of Kenyan coffee. Nearby Ruiru is home to the research centre where generations of scientists worked to address the challenges facing Kenyan coffee production, and where the Ruiru 11 variety was developed and released. The code “11” denotes that it is the first cultivar developed by Kenyans and that it was released from a one-way cross; in other words, it’s an F1 hybrid. The town’s name became permanently associated with one of the country’s most significant coffee breeding achievements, giving the wider area an important place in Kenya’s coffee story.

The estate covers approximately 190 hectares on the red volcanic soils that have helped make Kiambu County one of Kenya’s best-known coffee-growing regions. Seasonal rainfall and supplementary irrigation support coffee production throughout the year, while the estate remains surrounded by a landscape that has been associated with coffee cultivation for generations.

Ruera is one of the larger estates in the area and provides employment to more than 1,000 people across cultivation, harvesting and processing activities. Its scale makes it an important local employer and a longstanding part of the rural economy.

Like many of Kiambu’s historic estates, Ruera links several chapters of Kenya’s coffee history. It operates in a district that helped shape the country’s reputation for quality coffee, sits alongside institutions that continue to drive research and innovation, and remains part of a farming landscape that has evolved through colonial rule, independence and rapid modernisation. Today, as nearby Nairobi continues to expand and Ruiru grows into one of Kenya’s largest urban centres, estates such as Ruera provide a visible connection between the country’s coffee heritage and its future.

