



TEN THOUSAND
VILLAGES



Cork Purse

This trendsetting purse is part of a new collection of cork products from Colombia. Cork is a natural and sustainable material because the tree is not cut down to obtain it. Environmental responsibility is an important part of fair trade, and all of our products are produced with the mindset of minimizing our carbon footprint and preserving nature through use of sustainable or recycled materials. The leather is vegan too.



Materials:

cork, vegan leather

About the Artisans

Sapia - Colombia

Sapia was originally conceived in 1995 by Ana Piedrahita, an entrepreneur in Colombia's capital city of Bogota who saw the potential for producing a unique and intriguing items from orange peel. Colombia is among the highest per capita in orange juice consumption, which has spawned a strong demand for fresh-squeezed juice. These vendors would normally have to pay to discard the used peels, but now can actually earn additional income from selling them to Sapia.

Sapia employs 32 artisans directly, with another 50-plus artisans working independently. They also support an additional group of people through their purchase of orange peels, the raw material for their products. They have used their sales growth as an opportunity to reach out to other artisan groups in rural areas of the country, and have worked diligently to move beyond their original orange peel products and create new lines based on tagua, corn husk, cotton thread and recycled materials.

Travel the world with each visit to Ten Thousand Villages.

Learn how Fair Trade really makes a difference. Our goal is to provide vital, fair income to artisans by marketing their handicrafts and telling their stories in North America. Ten Thousand Villages sells product from more than 30 countries, providing work for nearly 60,000 people around the world.

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