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How the Chocolate Islands are rediscovering their roots



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Cocoa beans from Roça Sundry used to be sold to a cooperative on São Tomé, which then exported them to Europe for processing. But in 2019, HBD opened the [Chocolate Factory](#) in a building in the roça's central yard, where women from the sanzalas hand-sort the beans for small-batch bars to be sold on the islands. The chocolate is made under the Paciência Organic brand; Paciência was one of Roça Sundry's satellite plantations at the height of the cacao industry and is now an organic farm run by HBD. (Both the Chocolate Factory and the farm are open to visitors.)



<https://www.bbc.com/travel/article/20230705-how-the-chocolate-islands-are-rediscovering-their-roots>