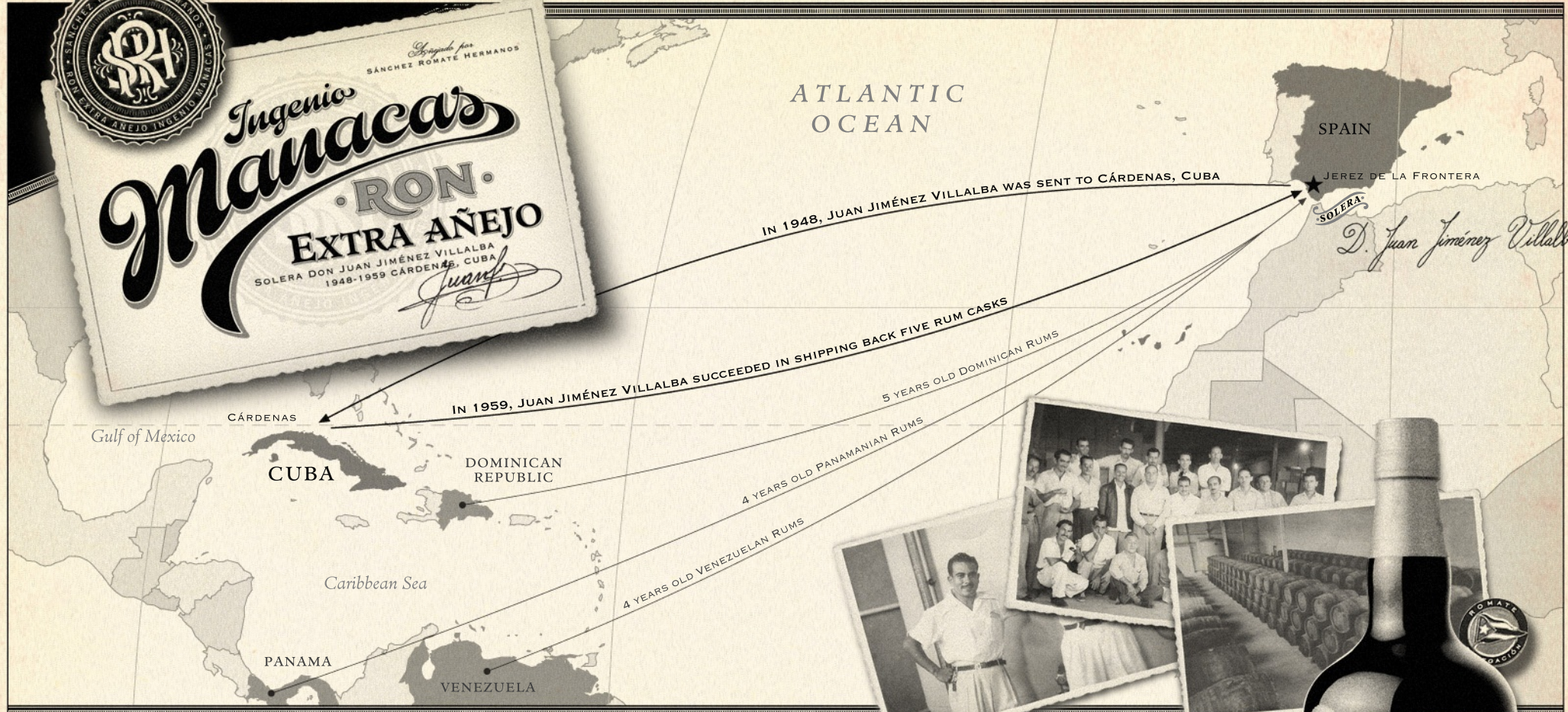




Ingenio
Manacas
• RON •
EXTRA AÑEJO
SOLERA DON JUAN JIMÉNEZ VILLALBA
1948-1959 CÁRDENAS, CUBA
Juan



Halfway through the last century, the Jerez winemaking firm Sánchez Romate Hnos. set up an office in Cárdenas, Cuba, where the finest Jerez wines and brandies were regularly dispatched in order to later send the casks and bottles throughout the Caribbean.

In 1948, Juan Jiménez Villalba, one of the firm's ablest foremen, was sent to Cuba and entrusted with looking after the company's wines and brandies. There he observed that once the wines had been dispatched, the casks' matchless characteristics made them excellent for the local Cuban distillers to age their rum in.

Some colonial estates and sugar refineries dedicated to growing sugar cane and rum distilling, such as Ingenio Manacas, traded their rum with Juan for Jerez sherry casks. This exchange was no doubt of great benefit to both parties.

Following the Cuban Revolution Juan Jiménez Villalba succeeded, with a great deal of effort, in recuperating some of these rum casks which had previously held sherry. Once they had been shipped from Cuba back to Jerez, the determined foreman looked after them with great care, and created a small solera in our Jerez winery.

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is of Caribbean origin and aged in Jerez. Produced in Panama, Venezuela and the Dominican Republic, it is aged in casks that once contained the Cuban rum that was brought back by our fondly-remembered foreman, Juan Jiménez Villalba. The Panamanian rums bestow elegance, the Dominican rums provide aroma and the Venezuelan rums lend it fruity maturity. Meanwhile, the Cuban rum that was once found in the solera casks adds notes of wood and complex ageing flavours.

The "soleras y criaderas" system lends the final touch to Rum Ingenio Manacas. This is a dynamic ageing method in which the content of each of the casks with the youngest rums, *criadera*, is blended with older rum from a *solera* cask, thus adding character and complexity to the final product and providing a perfect blend with the young rum's elegance and richness of aromas.

All casks used in the "Solera Juan Jiménez Villalba" have been previously soaked in old amontillado wines, which is one of the sherry's most complex varieties. This lends a unique distinction to Rum Ingenio Manacas.

