



- TRADITIONAL CHEESES -

Blue Toma



Blue Toma

Physical and organoleptic characteristics

SHAPE: cylindrical, with flat faces and slightly convex sides.

DIMENSIONS: large wheel: 30-33 cm in diameter and 8-9 cm high, 8-9 kg; small wheel: 23-26 cm in diameter and 6-8 cm high, 4-5 kg.

RIND: rustic and firm, with pinkish/grey colouring that varies in relation to ageing, with dense characteristic mould veins that keep developing during the maturation period, which may last from 60 to 120-150 days. Not edible.

PASTE: pale yellow compact curd with tiny holes, streaked with intense green/blue mould (marbling), especially along the holes pierced into the sides by hand.

TASTE: intense, aromatic, slightly spicy, more full-bodied after a longer maturation period.

STRUCTURE: somewhat pliable.

Nutritional information per 100 gr

Energy value	1.594 KJ - 380 Kcal
Total fats	30.6 g
of which saturated fats	21.0 g
Carbohydrates	< 1.0 g
of which Sugars	< 0.1 g
Fibre	< 0.5 g
Protein	23.1 g
Salt	2.3 g

Microbiological properties

Listeria monocytogenes	Absent in 25 g
Listeria monocytogenes	Abscrit iii 25 g

Allergens and contaminants

Milk and milk-derived substances. No other types of allergens.

The product complies with the legal limits for chemical contaminants.

Production

INGREDIENTS: milk, salt, rennet.

PRODUCTION METHOD: Blue Toma is produced from top-quality milk collected from our inspected and certified farms. After the pasteurisation process, the milk is placed in 600-kg vats together with calf rennet, a milk ferment produced at the dairy and spores of a particularly strong Penicillium strain. All processing steps are carried out exclusively by hand. The resulting fresh wheels are transferred to a warm room where they undergo a dry-salting process for 4 to 5 days.

This is followed by ageing on pinewood boards in cellars with a special cold/moist microclimate. A few weeks later, the sides are pierced manually to make holes that allow oxygen to penetrate the cheese so that the Penicillium mould may grow and form the characteristic marbling.

The wheels are turned periodically as the ageing process continues for 2-5 months, until the cheese is ready for marketing.

STORAGE CONDITIONS: the cheese must be kept at a temperature between $+ 2 \,^{\circ}\text{C}$ and $+ 6 \,^{\circ}\text{C}$.

SHELF LIFE: 90 days from the date of packaging.

Retail: for its characteristics to be best appreciated, the product should be consumed within ten days of purchase.

Sizes and packaging

Primary packaging: disc of pelure paper and Aropel paper (materials suitable for contact with food).

WHOLE WHEEL BIG	WHOLE WHEEL SMALL
8-9 ka	4-5 ka

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