

# Terra Cotta Pottery

## Art of Tonalá, Jalisco, México



### Terra Cotta of Tonalá

Tonalá, “the place where the sun rises”, is in Jalisco, Mexico. As early as 1530, Tonalá has been making hand-made pottery and art. This rustic style is made by hand using a mixture of natural clays. Skilled artisans press the clay into the molds, then attach the sections together securely, smoothing the finish and edges by hand with water. They are dried inside for at least a week to two weeks, then fired in a wood-burning kiln. After cooling for another day, the shapes are sanded and prepared for painting. An antiquing wash is applied over the entire surface, then the piece is painted with various colors, using special techniques to create a mottled finish. A wash is applied again, but wiped clean on the surface, leaving the wash in the outlines, accentuating the designs. A protective varnish is applied, and the resulting earth-tone, rustic pottery is both strong and beautiful!

### Three Season Pottery

