

# Cistus Essence Spain

*Cistus ladaniferus var beta maculatus Dun.*



**Ambery**  
Resinous



Botanical family : Cistaceae  
Method of culture : Wildcrafted controlled  
Part harvested : Leafy twigs

CAS TSCA : 8016-26-0  
INCI : Cistus ladaniferus oil

## Specifications

Method for obtaining : Blend of the essential oil and the extract of distillation waters  
:  
Appearance : Amber brown to dark brown mobile liquid  
Constituents : Alpha-pinene, trans-pinocarveol

## Harvest period

J F M A M **J J A S O** N D



Cistus, also known as rock rose, is a remarkable Mediterranean shrub that gives off a balsamic, amber smell that fills the air of the regions scrublands. Of the three *Cistus ladaniferus* L. species, only the “maculatus Dunal” variety is used in perfumery. Its name comes from the Greek *kistè*, meaning capsule, a nod to the shape of its fruit. Cistus has long, branchy, glutinous, blackish stems that give it a glossy appearance. The perennial green leaves are slender, elongated, and covered with secretory trichomes that exude a fragrant gum resin called labdanum. The flowers begin to appear in the month of April, perched almost two meters high on the plant. Their large white corollas have purple blotches at the base of the five petals, and these short-lived flowers last only a single day. Cistus grows abundantly in the wild in Spain (main producer), Portugal, the South of France, Italy, Albania, Greece, and North Africa. The young leafy twigs are hand-harvested using a sickle from June to August in our cistus fields in Almaden de la Plata near Seville, Spain. The plants are left in the ground to allow regrowth the following year. The fresh young branches are steam-distilled in our production unit to produce cistus essential oil. The distillation water is solvent-extracted to recover the remaining scent molecules. Our essential oil of Spanish cistus is a complete essence, meaning it is a blend of the essential oil and distillation water extract.

The rich amber notes of *cistus ladanifera* are expressed in a variety of products: the tradition or complete essential oil, cistus absolute derived from the concrete, labdanum absolute and resinoid and, lastly, labdasur, an Albert Vieille specialty. The smell of the complete essential oil is close to labdanum, with discernable terpene notes.

Advised uses : Perfumery, Cosmetic



ALBERT VIEILLE

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