

Artisana Raw Organic Almond Butter (Vegan, Gluten-Free, Soy-Free)

Artisana Raw Almond Butter is the only brand I have found thus far that is similar to my Holy Grail, Trader Joe's Raw Almond Butter. Both have a deep color with a slightly coarse consistency, which I mentally associate with "really raw";

Artisana's version has sweet and bitter notes that truly emulate the taste of whole almonds, skin and all. I loved the complex flavor and pure creamy texture with little bits of interest throughout. It adds nice contrast to jams and honey and probably dates, but I can see its purpose in savory also. Though I would hesitate to bake or cook with it, lest it lose those natural essences.

While I enjoyed the Artisana Almond Butter with my rice cakes and honey, I did find it a bit on the bitter side when compared to TJ's and not quite as tasty when slathered on sans honey or other sweetener. Yet, it was certainly top quality (if someone would like to send me another jar, I will gladly devour it), as you can only imagine when you see labels like this ...

While I wouldn't rate the almond butter as Artisana's top performer, according to my palate, it is near impossible to rise above the perfection of their Cashew Butter. This is a third party review by Alisa Fleming, author of Go Dairy Free: The Guide & Cookbook. For more information on this product and where to purchase it, see the Artisana website.