

almarosa

winery & vineyards

2017 Sta. Rita Hills Pinot Noir

WHO WE ARE

Alma Rosa is deeply rooted in the winemaking history of the Santa Rosa Hills in the southern sector of the Sta. Rita Hills AVA. Here, growing conditions combine sunshine with the powerful cooling influence of onshore winds and fog from the Pacific Ocean. The unique geography, chilly climate, and clay-loam soils attracted Richard Sanford to this area in the early 70s when he pioneered Pinot Noir in Santa Barbara County. In 1983 he established El Jabali on our home ranch as the first organically certified vineyards in Santa Barbara County. Growing consistently balanced wines through organic farming is part of the enduring legacy of founder Richard Sanford.

VINEYARDS

Sourced from vineyards throughout the Sta. Rita Hills, including vineyards along the southern Santa Rosa Road and the northern 246 corridor.

VINTAGE NOTES

Following a wet winter with several storms that dropped a total of 20 inches of rain in the Sta. Rita Hills, the 2017 growing season was largely uneventful. Occasional heat spikes were followed by cooling fog and winds that moderated the vintage and led to a mid-September harvest. An intense heat spell during the second week of September was punctuated by one night of heavy, monsoonal rain. Picking occurred after the heat spell under moderate conditions and fair skies.

WINEMAKING

- Harvested at night in September 2017.
- 95% destemmed/5% whole cluster
- Fermented in stainless steel tanks with selected yeasts.
- Aged in 33% new French wood for 14 months. One racking in May following vintage.
- Bottled after a light filtration.

TASTING NOTES

This wine appears garnet color and yields dark fruits, earth and cedar on the nose. Complex aromas of meaty black cherry, cheery blossom and savory herbs emerge with another swirl. Round and soft the palate this friendly Pinot Noir has a core of black cherry fruit with hints of dried orange peel, root beer and spice. The finish has similar flavor with a burst of ripe raspberry and a touch of red currant. A perfect fireside Pinot Noir before, during, or after dinner.

CLONE: Various

PRODUCTION: 700 cases

ALCOHOL: 13.9%

