

almarosa

winery & vineyards

2018 La Encantada Pinot Noir

WHO WE ARE

Alma Rosa Winery is dedicated to making wines that express the terroir of the Sta. Rita Hills AVA. Alma Rosa's wines are layered, vibrant and balanced, reflecting the cool climate impact of the Pacific Ocean, whose breezes funnel through the unique east-west transverse mountain range of the region. The winery was founded in 2005 by Richard Sanford, the first to plant Pinot Noir in the Sta. Rita Hills in 1971, as well as several of the AVA's most significant vineyards. In 2014 Bob and Barb Zorich, purchased the winery, bringing a long-term vision of elevating the winery and estate to a world-class level. The couple has opened a stunning tasting room in the heart of Buellton, assembled an industry-leading management and winemaking team, and developed 38 acres of vineyards across five non-contiguous sites.

VINEYARDS

- 100% La Encantada vineyard
- Harvested from blocks 2 and 5

VINTAGE NOTES

Following a cool spring and early summer, the 2018 vintage in the Sta. Rita Hills offered ideal growing conditions for Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. Steady temperatures with plenty of fog and offshore wind moderated this vintage across the board and allowed for extensive hang-time. This long growing season allowed complete development of sugars and phenolics while offering high acidity levels, beautiful color development and pronounced aromatics. 2018 will be remembered as one of the best vintages in recent years in the Sta. Rita Hills.

WINEMAKING

- Harvested at night on September 24th, 2018
- 100% destemmed, fermented in stainless steel tanks
- Aged for 11 months French oak barrels, 40% new
- Bottled unfinned and unfiltered in August 2019

TASTING NOTES

The La Encantada vineyard, originally planted by Richard Sanford in 2000, produces wines that exemplify the greatest attributes of the Sta. Rita Hills' southwest corridor year after year. Planted on soils rich in diatomaceous earth, the 2018 La Encantada Pinot Noir is deeply expressive, showing beautiful bright red fruit on the palate. This wine owes its distinctive minerality in part to the ancient, fossilized oceanic soils of the vineyard. Aromatically, aromas of white pepper, sage, thyme, citrus peel and rosehip waft from the glass. Texturally, this medium-bodied wine is framed by silky tannins and refreshing acidity. While it is drinking beautifully now, this impeccably balanced wine will continue to develop in the bottle for several years. We suggest serving the La Encantada Pinot Noir with tomato-based pasta, or tender cuts of beef rubbed with olive oil, rosemary and black pepper.



CLONE: Swan and 77
PRODUCTION: 264 cases
ALCOHOL: 14.3%