

2019 La Encantada Pinot Noir

Production Insights

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 where he pioneered Pinot Noir in Santa Barbara County. Growing consistently balanced wines through sustainable farming is part of the enduring legacy of our founder Richard Sanford.

Vineyard

- 100% La Encantada Vineyard
- 70% clone 777, 15% clone 115 and 15% Swan clone

Vintage Notes

The 2019 growing season was long and mild, with a moist, foggy winter and a mild spring and summer. Summer concluded with a July heat spike with temperatures reaching into the high 90s. Due to the Sta. Rita Hills' position near the transverse mountain range, the vineyards experienced cool ocean breezes from the Pacific Ocean which allowed grapes to mature slowly, developing flavor concentration with optimal ripeness.

Winemaking

- Harvested on September 17 and September 19, 2019
- 100% destemmed, 60% fermented in 1-1/2 ton bins and 40% fermented in stainless steel tanks
- Aged for 15 months in French oak, 30% new
- Bottled unfiltered and unfiltered

Tasting Notes

The La Encantada vineyard, planted by Richard Sanford in 2000, produces wines that exemplify the greatest attribute of the Sta. Rita Hills' southwest corridor year after year. Planted on soils rich in diatomaceous earth, the 2018 La Encantada Pinot Noir is a lively and inviting ruby red color in the glass. On the nose, this wine shows classic Sta. Rita Hills Pinot Noir aromas of bright red berries, red currant, and pronounced and intriguing notes of baking spices. On the palate the wine is elegant, with plenty of fresh acidity and chewy tannins. Seductive and lush, this wine is ready to drink now and will continue to develop in complexity over the next 3-5 years.



Details

Production: 243 CS
Alcohol: 14.6%