

2020 Sta. Rita Hills 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

Sourced from two vineyards on Santa Rosa Road, El Jabali and Bentrock.

Vintage Notes

2020 is most dramatically differentiated from 2019 and previous years by the extreme heat events of mid-August and September. In the extreme, temperatures exceeded 110F on 6 September 2020. More than a dozen 100F plus degree days were recorded in 2020, in contrast to only 2 in 2019, changing the course of our harvest and having us make decisions to mitigate the extreme heat. The growing season was dry with no rainfall during harvest.

Winemaking

- Harvested in between September 10th and 30th 2020
- 100% destemmed
- Aged for 11 months in 30% New French oak

Tasting Notes

With a stunning deep ruby color, our Sta. Rita Hills Pinot is aromatic and vibrant on the nose. This gorgeous Pinot has vibrant, red fruit tones such as red cherries, cranberries, wild strawberries that are blended pleasantly with notes of orange peel, raw cocoa, rose petals, sage and thyme. The tannins are well pronounced but smooth in this wine, giving it good structure. Vivid flavors of raspberries, walnuts and wet stone integrate with nicely notes of minerality. Our Sta Rita Hills Pinot is pairs beautifully with lamb, chicken, grilled skirt steak and pasta dishes.



Details

Production: 1400 CS
Alcohol: 14.5%