

2020 El Jabali Chardonnay

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% El Jabali Vineyard
- Clones: 54% Wente and 46% 548.

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

- 100% whole cluster pressed.
- Settled for 24 hours in stainless steel tanks and then racked into 45% new French oak barrels.
- Aged 15 months in 45% new French oak.
- Bottled unfiltered and unfined.

Tasting Notes

Our 2020 El Jabali Chardonnay has a bright gold color in the glass and notes of mellow jasmine, white flowers, and a hint of fresh herbs. On the palate, refreshing notes of lemon cream, soft minerality, and white flowers are followed by expressive bright acidity that gives an appealing long finish.



Details

Production: 374 CS