

*almarosa*  
winery & vineyards

# 2020 El Jabali

## Syrah

### 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 887 and Tablas Creek

#### **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**

- 50% whole cluster fermented.
- Wine was racked once in May and was aged in barrels until mid-December, for a total of 15 months in 60% New French oak.
- Bottled unfiltered and unfined.

#### **Tasting Notes**

Beginning with an intense violet color, our Syrah expresses complex notes of dark fruit, black currant and blueberry complemented by notes of cocoa, black olives and tobacco. On the palate, the Syrah is intense, with ravishing notes of boysenberry and cassis. This wine showcases the beauty of the Sta. Rita Hills with notes of gravel and pronounced minerality, followed by complex tannins, giving this wine a long chewy finish.



#### **Details**

Production: 235 CS