



## 2021 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
- Block 20A (877 clone) and Block 20B (Tablas clone)

#### **Vintage Notes**

2021 was a near-perfect vintage in the Sta. Rita Hills. Mild and steady weather throughout the spring and summer allowed grapes to develop slowly with small berries and clusters. With only one pre-season rainfall, daily marine breezes from the Pacific Ocean just 10 miles away, and no extreme weather events, conditions were ideal for producing fruit of incredible quality, concentration and character.

#### **Winemaking**

- 40% whole cluster fermented
- 3 punch-downs/pump-overs per day for 10-14 days
- 50% open top stainless steel, 50% 1-ton bins
- Free-run juice was transferred directly to barrels, 60% new French oak, and allowed to go through natural malolactic fermentation; this wine included puncheon ageing
- Wine was racked once in May and was aged in barrels until mid-December, for a total of 14 months in 60% new French oak
- Bottled unfinned and unfiltered

#### **Tasting Notes**

Alma Rosa's estate vineyard, El Jabali, was originally planted in 1983 by Richard Sanford. 2021 marks the second year producing Syrah from the highest elevation reaches of our estate vineyard. Embodying the essence of Sta. Rita Hills' cool climate, the 2021 Alma Rosa El Jabali Syrah allures with its captivating aromas of violets, lilacs, orange peel, blueberries and crushed stone. The palate marries bright, juicy acidity with blackberry, blueberry and black currant flavors. Lush fruit and firmly structured tannins strike a perfect balance in this high complex, well-rounded Syrah.

