



## Niel Santofimia 2019

**Winery:** Bodegas Niel

**D.O.:** Almansa

**Wine Type:** Red

**Varieties:** 85% Garnacha Tintorera,  
15% Merlot

**Alcohol:** 14.5 %

The D.O. Almansa, where this winery is located in the southeast of the province of Albacete (Castile-La Mancha, Spain), in the transition zone between the high central plateau (La Mancha) and the Mediterranean Sea. The vineyards are mostly around the towns of Almansa, Alpera, Bonete, Corral-Rubio, Higuera, Hoya-Gonzalo, Pétrola and El Villar de Chinchilla. This D.O. is the highest producer of Garnacha Tintorera worldwide, which is indigenous to this region.

The climate is continental (long, hot summers, cold winters). Rainfall is sparse (350 mm per annum) and sporadic usually in spring and autumn in the form of violent storms, often in the form of hail. Temperatures can reach 38°C in summer and -6°C in winter.

The grapes for this wine come from vineyards that are 30 years-old on average, planted in permeable lime-bearing soils that are poor in nutrients, and located on the town of Almansa at an altitude of 800-1,000 meters above sea level.

*The grapes are hand-harvested. The wine is fermented for 15 days in stainless steel closed tanks. It was aged for more than 3 months in French oak barrels before bottling.*

PRODUCTION: 2,500 cases for the US.

**NOT YET RATED!**

“Opaque ruby. Dark berries, licorice, candied flowers and a hint of olive on the pungent nose and in the mouth. I'd have guessed that there was some Syrah floating around in here. Round and fleshy in texture; a spicy element adds back-end lift and cut. Closes smooth and warm, displaying good energy and just a whisper of dusty tannins.”