

Wine Spectator

96 POINTS
CARNEROS WEST SLOPE
PINOT NOIR

Captivating, with a core of pure, ripe raspberry and cherry flavors that are purely defined. The rich texture supports notes of clove, anise, truffle and aged cigar. Both elegant and powerful. The aromatics and the long finish leaves you wanting more. Drink now through 2014. From CA – M.W.

93 POINTS
CARNEROS ESTATE GROWN
PINOT NOIR

A tantalizing mix of perfectly ripe, juicy raspberry and tangy black cherry flavors, with a rich, powerful loamy element of fresh earth, clay and spice. Licorice, kirsch and spice box notes detail the wine, which is delicate and layered, with a creamy texture. Drink now through 2014. M.W.

92 POINTS
RUSSIAN RIVER ESTATE GROWN
PINOT NOIR

There's a pleasant zestiness to the wild berry and red cherry fruit flavors, with ripe, spicy elements and a bit of peppery tobacco, cedar and fresh herb notes. Full-bodied, with good intensity that persists through the finish. Drink now through 2012. 600 cases made. —M.W.

92 POINTS
CARNEROS ESTATE GROWN
CHARDONNAY

Flavors were subdued but complex, with notes of papaya, mango, coconut and lime. Full and lush in the mouth, it remained focused and balanced, with lively acidity that kept the wine fresh through the long finish. (not submitted for review; purchase by WS and tasted non-blind)



WINEENTHUSIAST

94 POINTS
RUSSIAN RIVER ESTATE GROWN
PINOT NOIR

This is a restaurant wine. It's really fancy, really good and really food-friendly. Although it's rich in fruit and oak, it possesses an underlying tension, with acidity and tannins all vying for center stage. You're always looking for the center of gravity. In other words, a wine of great complexity and interest.

93 POINTS
CARNEROS WEST SLOPE
PINOT NOIR

Despite a burst of tannins and acidity that make this wine somewhat aggressive, it's absolutely delicious, and should reward 3-5 years in the cellar. The flavors are massive, suggesting rich black cherry pie filling, cola, and cedar, with a tantalizing edge of chocolate and roasted almonds. It's quite a good wine. Decant if you dink now.

PINOTREPORT

95 POINTS
CARNEROS WEST SLOPE
PINOT NOIR

Medium-deep ruby color; complex, deep, aromas of herbs, spice, lavender and black cherry; rich, lush, subtle black cherry flavors with loads of spice, lavender and herbs; silky texture, some sweet oak; good structure and balance; long finish. Lush, complex Pinot that has so much to offer now and yet I want to put it in the cellar for 3-5 years. Needs air to open up. 150 cases made.



California GRAPEVINE

91 POINTS
CARNEROS ESTATE GROWN
PINOT NOIR

Medium-light ruby color; attractive, intense, complex, spicy, cedary, black cherry and raspberry fruit aromas; medium-full to full body; big, forward, balanced and structured; medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very highly recommended.



California GRAPEVINE

90 POINTS
RUSSIAN RIVER ESTATE GROWN
PINOT NOIR

Medium-light ruby; attractive, slightly floral, spicy, raspberry and cherry fruit aroma with notes of clove and cocoa powder; medium-full to full body; rich, textured, herbal, spicy, complex, raspberry and black cherry fruit flavors with a silky mouthfeel; nicely balanced; slightly tart on the finish; medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Developed with airing in the glass. Very highly recommended.

San Francisco Chronicle

TOP-PICK
CARNEROS ESTATE GROWN
PINOT NOIR

This soon-to-be-released vintage from Kenneth Juhasz and grower Anne Moller-Racke, who planted the estate vineyards in 1989, has intense but elegant fruity, ripe black cherry, licorice; fresh bay leaf and spice are balanced with food-friendly acidity and structure. A nuanced bottling.

TOP-PICK
RUSSIAN RIVER ESTATE GROWN
PINOT NOIR

An ambitious effort from Anne Moller-Racke that delivers, though perhaps not quite as dramatically as its Carneros estate counterpart. If there's one to cellar this is it: It's sultry, oak-driven and packed with musk, mushroom and roasted spices. And yet the deep cherry and bright wild-strawberry flavors tie it all together with some savory wood accents. Big, layered and powerful, a heady take on Russian River fruit.