

Raptor Ridge

W I N E R Y



in the press



**Pinot Noir
Reserve**

92 Points Reserve 2012	<i>Vinous: Oct 2015</i> Deep red, suave, oak-spiced dark berry and cherry cola aromas are complemented by suggestions of woodsmoke and vanilla. Sappy and appealingly sweet on the palate, offering intense black raspberry and cherry compote flavors sharpened by a peppery nuance. Seamless, broad and fleshy but lively as well, finishing with gentle framing tannins and strong thrust and cling. — J.R.
90 Points Reserve 2012	<i>Wine Enthusiast: Aug 2015</i> Full-bodied and firm, it's loaded with blue plum and black cherry fruit, along with streaks of root beer and vanilla cream soda. The barrel aging brings in coffee liqueur highlights. — PG
91 Points Reserve 2012	<i>Wine Spectator: Feb 2015</i> "Taut, minerally and expressive, with blackberry, cherry, pear and balsamic flavors that extend into the long finish. This has tension and persistence. Best from 2016 through 2022." — H.S.
90 Points Reserve 2011	<i>Wine Spectator Insider: April 2014</i> Light and tangy, polished in texture, offering guava nuances to the red berry and tamarind flavors, lingering on the lively finish. Best from 2015 through 2018. — H.S.
90 Points Reserve 2011	<i>The Tasting Panel: December 2013</i> Bright cherry nose; crisp and juicy with tangy acidity and pure, lively style with a bracing, lively finish.
90 Points Reserve 2010	<i>Wine Spectator: May 31, 2013</i> Light and refreshing, with cherry and a hint of mint dancing through the long, expressive finish. Drink now through 2016. — H.S.
93 Points Reserve 2010	<i>The Tasting Panel: May 2013</i> Smooth and juicy with bright, fresh raspberry and nervy cherry; bracing and delicious with Burgundian style and loads of charm.
93 Points Reserve 2009	<i>Wine Spectator Insider: Jun 13, 2012</i> "Supple, refined and distinctive for the purity and clarity of its dark berry, cherry and guava flavors, lingering easily on the light, expressive finish. Drink now through 2019." — H.S.
90 Points Reserve 2009	<i>Wine Advocate: Oct 28, 2011</i> "The 2009 Pinot Noir Reserve is a blend of all seven vineyards with which Raptor Ridge works. It is free of any greenness while displaying notes of toasty oak, spice box, and black fruits. On the palate it exhibits plenty of depth, layered fruit, a bit of succulence, and good concentration. It should drink well through 2019."
92 Points Reserve 2008	<i>Wine Spectator: Jun 30, 2011</i> Supple and appealing for the mineral notes that harmonize with the cherry and spice flavors, lingering nicely. Drink now through 2018.

92 Points Reserve 2008	<i>Daily Wine Picks: Jun 29, 2011</i> "Supple and appealing for the mineral notes that harmonize with the cherry and spice flavors, lingering nicely. Drink now through 2018."
90 Points Reserve 2008	<i>Wine Advocate: Oct 31 2010</i> "The 2008 Pinot Noir Reserve is a blend of 5 vineyards. Dark ruby in color with a restrained nose of smoke, cinnamon, clove, and assorted black fruits, on the palate it remains tightly wound and in need of significant cellaring. However, it seems to have all the right stuff but is more of a gamble than most of the wines of this superb vintage."
90 Points Reserve 2006	<i>Wine Advocate: Oct 30, 2008</i> "The 2006 Pinot Noir Reserve is a slightly darker color and a bit more restrained aromatically. The wine has good focus and delineation with black cherry and black raspberry fruit appearing on the mid-palate. Nicely balanced and concentrated, the wine has a persistent, fruit-filled finish. Drink it over the next four years."
88 Points Reserve 2006	<i>Wine Spectator: Sep 30, 2008</i> "Lithe and subtle, a silky-textured Pinot with pretty floral overtones to the cherry and dusky herb flavors, lingering on the ripe finish. Drink now through 2012."
94 Points Reserve 2006	<i>Vinfolio: Mar 4, 2008</i> "Scott Shull's 2006 Raptor Ridge Pinot Noir Reserve (VF 94) sources nearly half of its fruit from Shea, and the rest from Meredith Mitchell Vineyards, which is built on a backbone of Dijon 115, 777 and Pommard. A jaw-dropping stellar example of Oregon's top vintage in a decade."
92 Points Reserve 2005	<i>Wine & Spirits: Aug 2007</i> "Drawn from a half-dozen Willamette Valley sources, this composed, gentle wine offers up a classic tension between ripe red fruit and an earthy, vinous core. It's dark and heavy, but the fruit — sweet, generous red cherry and strawberry — is lifted and taut, finishing with impressive length. It has the tension and structure for duck breast."
91 Points Reserve 2005	<i>Wine Spectator: Mar 2007</i> "Lithe, supple and generous with its plum and blackberry fruit, hinting at sweet leather on the finish as it sails on unimpeded by tannins. Lovely stuff, and it should deepen with cellaring. Drink now through 2013."
Prestige Reserve 2004	<i>Santé: May 2006</i> Dried blackberry and plum flavors complemented by molasses, soy, and burnt brown sugar; creamy texture contrasts nicely with the bright acidity. Lamb stew with spring vegetables.
90 Points Reserve 2004	<i>Wine Enthusiast: May 2006</i> "Broadly fruity and undeniably delicious, the winery's reserve mixes raspberry and bing cherry preserves, spicy baked apple and dusty cinnamon. Smooth, young and ready to go. What's not to like?"
90 Points Reserve 2004	<i>Wine & Spirits: Apr 2006</i> "Opulent, quintessential American pinot noir, this wine has plenty of forward, delicious black cherry flavor and vanilla oak, so generous and up front it's hard to resist. Serve with a grilled pork chop."
93 Points, Year's Best Reserve 2003	<i>Wine & Spirits: Jun 2005, Apr 2006</i> "A wine with great poise and delicacy, at first it offers scents of rose and violet, with hints of earth, resin, wax and cherry. With a day, the fragrance develops as macerated cherries, with a gorgeous cherry blossom overlay; pure flavours, concentrated yet gentle, with a firmness that is more about precision than strength."

<p>93 Points Reserve 2003</p>	<p><i>Wine Spectator: May 2005</i> "Supple, smoky and seductive, its plush texture brimming with intense blackberry, cherry, currant and spice flavor that lasts and lasts on the long, lithe finish. Tannins are beautifully integrated. Best from 2007 through 2015."</p>
<p>Highly Recommended Reserve 2003</p>	<p><i>Northwest Palate: Mar/Apr 2005</i> "Alluring aromas of mint, black cherry, and graham. Vibrant flavors of black cherry, strawberry, and graham. Lively, focused, and balanced with a spicy finish. Yum! Tempting now with braised rabbit or quail, but cellaring 2-3 years will yield more elegance."</p>
<p>87 Points Reserve 2002</p>	<p><i>Wine & Spirits: Apr 2004</i> "The aromas in the glass at first seem kirsch-like, then acquire some depth with a little air; but the wine remains tightly coiled and a little absent in the mouth, its tightness magnified by heat. Tame it with rouladen or beef."</p>
<p>Recommended Reserve 2002</p>	<p><i>Northwest Palate: Mar/Apr 2004</i> "Aromas of cherry/berry fruit, with hints of light toast and herb. Very youthful on the palate, with cherry and blueberry flavors. Angular and very grapey. Cellar 1-2 years for integration."</p>