

# J. H. Carriere

W I N E S

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## 2012 SHEA VINEYARD WILLAMETTE VALLEY PINOT NOIR



- Thesis:** Easy drinking, no objection, Southern girl in a floral summer sundress.
- The Cliff Notes:** The color of the wine is medium/light ruby. Floral cherry, red and black currant, blond spice and slight camphor/Eucalyptus advance on the nose. In the mouth it's red cherries moving towards black currants that are generous, juicy, and long. The finish suggests cocoa nibs and the structure suggests 'just kissed.' In no way ponderous, it's a serious, linear, medium plus red that conveys that ethereal, hard-to-capture idea of "movement" in Pinot Noir.
- The Story:** Early in the growing season of 2012 we experienced a hard thunderstorm that severely limited the yield on our vines at Shea Vineyard. What followed was a small crop of good intensity which we couldn't afford to take our eyes off, lest birds or over-ripe get it. The net result was beautiful balance in a great year.
- Cases Produced:** 7 best barrels = Only 161 cases
- The Building of:** Small-lot wild yeast fermentations, 100% barrel aged for 19 months in French oak barrels (one new, one once-filled, three twice-filled, one older). Bottled unfined and unfiltered in April of 2014.
- Alcohol: 13.5%                      pH: 3.61
- Ageability:** Absolutely decant it to get it air within its first three years. Well cellared, you should anticipate additional complexity during its first 10 years with a potential 12- to 15-year drinking horizon.
- Vineyards:** At **Shea Vineyards** ours is a three-acre, mid-slope east block of 14-year-old Dijon clone 777 Pinot noir. The site is warm and early, ensuring fruit of optimal ripeness and opulence in bottle.

— Jim Prosser, owner/winemaker