Let $f$ be a rational map defined on the Riemann sphere. Then $f$ defines a dynamical system whose chaotic locus is called the Julia set. A pinching deformation, $f_t, t > 0$, is a one-parameter family of deformations of $f$. It is a way to create a parabolic cycle by forcing an attracting cycle and a repelling cycle to collide. The main result shows that for certain pinching deformations, if $f_t \to g$ uniformly, then the Julia set of $f_t$ converges in the Hausdorff topology to the Julia set of $g$ in the Hausdorff topology. (Received December 03, 2008)