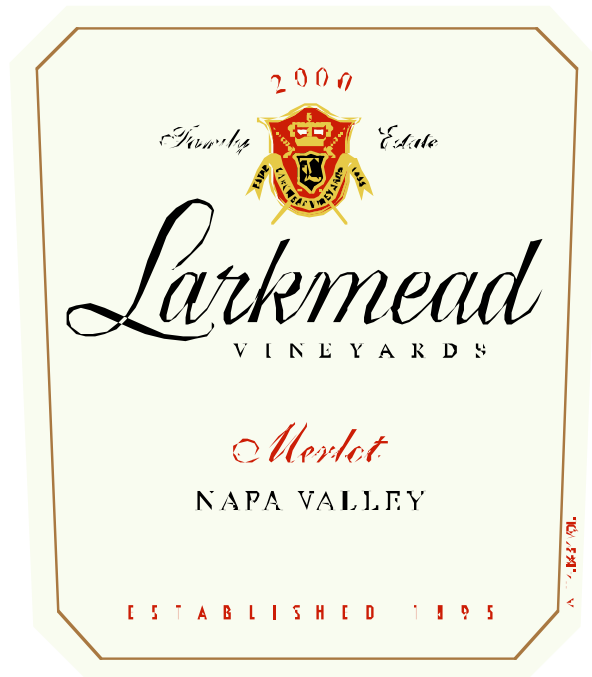


Tasting notes from January 2003
Alcohol 14.1%



**Larkmead Vineyards 2000
Merlot Napa Valley**
940 cases produced

100% Estate Grown fruit at Larkmead Vineyards
90% Merlot
10% Cabernet Sauvignon

Aged in 55% new French oak barrels for 18 months

Tasting notes:

A deep ruby red color leads to bright yet complex aromas of raspberry and plum, which evolve to more earthy notes of sweet clove, game and a hint of tobacco. The brightness continues on the palate with juicy raspberry and a darker core of cassis and mocha. The mid palate is broad and mouthfilling with supple tannins that allow the persistent finish to slowly unfold.

Delicious and approachable on release, our 2000 Merlot will continue to broaden and sweeten with 4 years in the bottle.

We suggest decanting for an hour in its youth to allow the wine's rich generosity and vineyard complexity to be fully expressed.