



Larkmead 2003 Napa Valley LMV Salon

The time was the turn of the nineteenth century, and the place was a country home called Larkmead, set amongst the orchards, gardens, and vineyards of California's pristine Napa Valley. Lillie Coit -- one of San Francisco's most famous and colorful residents -- and her mother, Martha Hitchcock, were hostesses of Larkmead's bohemian salon, where their numerous guests entertained themselves through spirited conversations and original musical and theatre performances. Our **LMV Salon** propriety red blend bridges the spirit of Larkmead and the fruit of its vineyards.

Winemaker Notes:

Alcohol 14.7%

100% Estate grown fruit

60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Cabernet Franc, 6% Malbec, 5% Petit Verdot, 4% Merlot
Aged 20 months in 65% new French oak barrels

500 cases produced

“Our first Bordeaux-style blend features the five traditional Bordeaux varieties and is a true representation of the diversity our Estate Vineyard offers. The dominant Cabernet component is grown on our deep rocky gravels and establishes the dark core of the blend. Our superb acre-block of Cabernet Franc is featured prominently and provides floral aromatics and effusive blueberry fruit. Malbec adds a touch of spicy licorice fruit and Petit Verdot brings color, minerality and tannin complexity. Merlot completes the cuvée with an iron-like aromatic edge and broad mouth-filling sweetness. The blend is aged in fine grained, moderately toasted French oak which adds a smoky intensity to the mix. On opening the wine is intensely fruit-driven with a broad lush sweetness. With airtime, the true essence of vineyard-derived complexity emerges and the wine darkens noticeably to show a dense brooding edge and structural richness.

Bright ruby/purple. Complex aromatics of wild berries, dried herbs, sweet plum and tobacco. The palate is dense and saturated with blue and black fruits, graphite and mineral notes with an edge of iron. The rich chewy tannins support the abundant natural fruit sweetness and fresh acidity lifts the wine's lengthy vibrant finish. Decant for an hour in its youth to experience the wine's full range of flavors. This large-scaled wine will further concentrate for 3 years in bottle and hold for a decade.” **Andy Smith - Winemaker**

Robert Parker Wine Advocate 90POINTS

“The 2003 LMV Salon (a blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Cabernet Franc, and 15% Malbec, Petit Verdot, and Merlot) possesses an elegant, Medoc-like personality with hints of menthol, black currants, sweet cherries, plums and cigar smoke. This spicy, medium-bodied, finesse-styled blend should drink well for 7-12 years.”

Stephen Tanzer International Wine Cellar 92 POINTS

“Deep ruby-red. Complex nose...Juicy, fresh and tactile in the mouth, with a claret-like pliancy and lush, sweet flavors of dark fruits and chocolate. Finishes with substantial broad tannins and excellent length.”

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