

Larkmead

VINEYARDS

VINTNER & GROWER



ESTABLISHED 1895

2003 LMV SALON

WINEMAKER NOTES:

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 proprietary red blend bridges the spirit of Larkmead and the fruit of its vineyards.

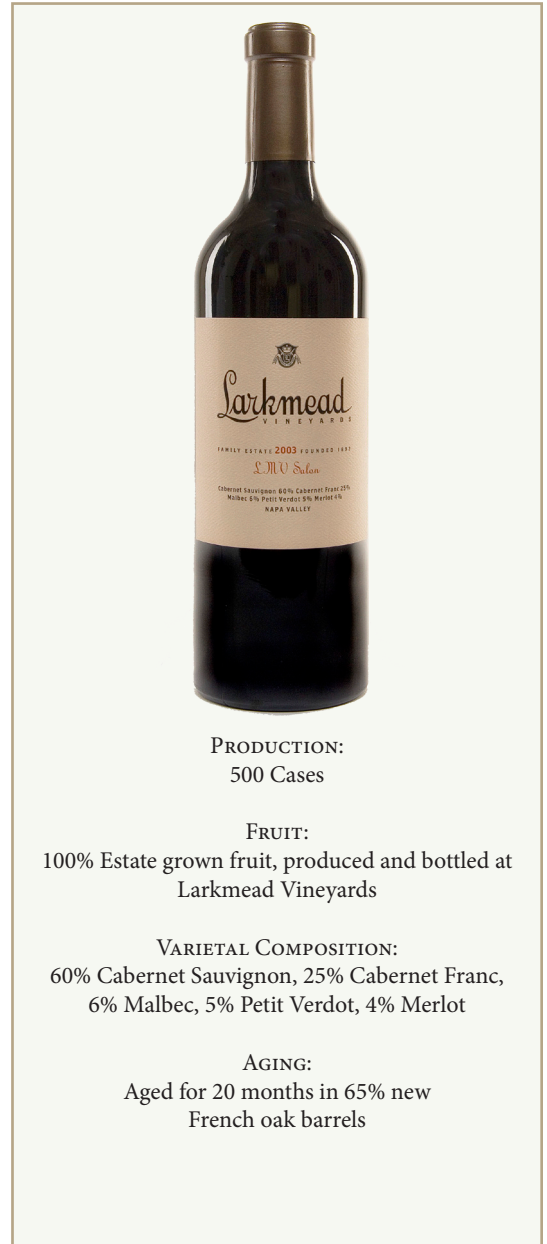
Our first Bordeaux-style blend features the five traditional Bordeaux varieties and is a true representation of the diversity our Estate Vineyard offers. The dominant Cabernet component is grown on our deep rocky gravels and establishes the dark core of the blend. Our superb acre-block of Cabernet Franc 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

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.

- 90 POINTS, ROBERT PARKER, *THE WINE ADVOCATE*, ISSUE 162, 12-26-05



PRODUCTION:
500 Cases

FRUIT:
100% Estate grown fruit, produced and bottled at
Larkmead Vineyards

VARIETAL COMPOSITION:
60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Cabernet Franc,
6% Malbec, 5% Petit Verdot, 4% Merlot

AGING:
Aged for 20 months in 65% new
French oak barrels

