

# Larkmead



## THE ESTATE

Larkmead Vineyards is one of the oldest family-owned wineries in Napa Valley. Founded in 1895, the estate has been under the stewardship of the Solari-Baker family since 1948. Over the decades, the family has thoughtfully farmed, replanted, and nurtured the 115-acre vineyard to produce some of Napa Valley's most outstanding wines.

Honoring this deep winemaking legacy, the estate introduced modern winery facilities in 2004 and expanded them in 2014. Designed by acclaimed architect Howard Backen, the winery seamlessly blends state-of-the-art technology with timeless architectural elegance. For more than two decades, the estate has focused its craft on Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet-based blends. That dedication has been widely recognized, with the wines earning more than 150 scores of 95 points or higher—including three perfect 100-point ratings. Together, these achievements reflect the exceptional character of the vineyard, the precision of the winemaking, and the family's enduring pursuit of excellence.



*Clockwise from top left: The Larkmead Estate, looking northeast, Winemaker Avery Heelan, Vineyard Manager Nabor Camarena, our pollinator gardens surrounding the winery, a tasting in our gallery, Proprietor Kate Solari Baker.*

TRADE & NATIONAL SALES CONTACT:

DERMOT WHELAN, NATIONAL SALES MANAGER | [DERMOT@LARKMEAD.COM](mailto:DERMOT@LARKMEAD.COM) | (925) 699-5611

1100 LARKMEAD LANE • CALISTOGA • CA 94515

PHONE (707) 942-0167 • [WWW.LARKMEAD.COM](http://WWW.LARKMEAD.COM)



## THE VINEYARDS

From above, Napa Valley resembles a tilted hourglass—and Larkmead rests just above its narrowest point, at the confluence of two alluvial fans. The estate’s 115 contiguous acres of vines stretch across the valley floor, reaching toward the opposing mountain ranges that frame the site: the Mayacamas Range to the west and the Vaca Range to the east.

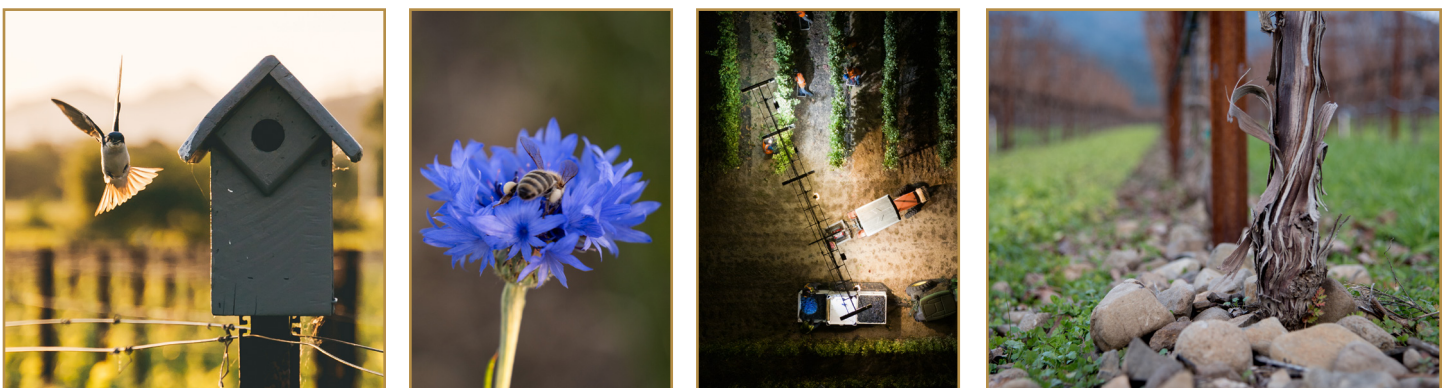
Situated in northern Napa Valley, the estate encompasses an extraordinary diversity of soils. Each parcel is meticulously matched with specific clonal and rootstock combinations, forming the foundation of Larkmead’s 100% estate-grown and produced wines. Each block is farmed and vinified individually, allowing its unique character to emerge before final blends are composed—capturing the remarkable diversity of the estate.

Since 2008, Vineyard Manager Nabor Camarena has guided the land with exceptional care. Working alongside Winemaker Avery Heelan and the Solari-Baker family, their shared commitment to organic, balanced, and regenerative farming allows the vineyard to express its fullest potential each vintage.

## LAND STEWARDSHIP

Since acquiring the estate in 1948, the Solari-Baker family has demonstrated an enduring commitment to thoughtful land stewardship. In 2024, the estate was recognized in the Slow Wine Guide—the essential handbook to eco-conscious wines that honors environmental responsibility, care for those who work the land, and the highest standards of wine quality.

In 2023, after nearly seven years of organic farming and a rigorous multi-year certification process, the estate earned official certification from California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF). This designation affirms the family’s long-standing dedication to responsible farming and the health of the both the vineyard and the larger Napa Valley ecosystem. The estate achieved Napa Green Winery certification in 2011 and Napa Green Land certification in 2017. Today, it holds the program’s highest GOLD level—reflecting vineyards and surrounding pollinator gardens that are entirely herbicide- and neonicotinoid-free.



*From left: One of hundreds of bird boxes across the estate to foster biodiversity and encourage natural predators of harmful insects, pollinators play an important part of the Larkmead ecosystem, harvest viewed from above, an ancient riverbed runs beneath our vineyard, resulting in large stones and rocks in some of our most prized blocks.*

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#### EVERY HEELAN, WINEMAKER

Avery Heelan was born and raised in New England. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Northeastern University in Boston, followed by a Master of Science in Agriculture and Environmental Chemistry from the University of California, Davis, where she specialized in Viticulture and Enology. Her path to winemaker at Larkmead began with a harvest and cellar internship at CADE Estate Winery in St. Helena. She then gained international experience as Vintage Enologist at Capel Vale Winery in Western Australia and as Vintage Assistant Winemaker at Domaine Yves Boyer-Martenot in Meursault. Prior to joining Larkmead, she served as Cellar Master at Napa Valley’s iconic Screaming Eagle.

Heelan joined Larkmead as Associate Winemaker in 2019 and was promoted to Winemaker in July 2021, assuming responsibility for all winemaking at the estate. Her work has quickly earned industry recognition. She was named Wine Business Monthly’s “Winemaker of the Month” in May 2024 following the highly anticipated release of her 2021 vintage wines, and in February 2025 she was recognized by NapaValley.com as one of Napa Valley’s rising-star winemakers.

Heelan has been featured by NPR for her viticultural work addressing climate change, praised for her inaugural Chenin Blanc sourced from the estate’s innovative Research Block, and widely recognized for her role in focusing and elevating the Larkmead wine portfolio.

#### NABOR CAMARENA, VINEYARD MANAGER

Nabor Camarena was born in Arroyo Seco in the Mexican state of Jalisco. Upon his 18th birthday, he made his way to California and joined his older brother at Hyde Vineyards in Carneros. Camarena worked the ranch for 16 years, drawing innumerable lessons from California’s top winemakers, but left in 2000 to join the team at Donum Estate. There, he was trained in management and team building, and made the acquaintance of Kelly Maher, former viticultural consultant to Larkmead. Maher eventually lured the talented Camarena up-valley. He arrived at Larkmead as Vineyard Manager in January 2009 and began getting to know the vineyards personally: “I do not farm the vineyard. I listen and it tells me what it needs.” Camarena has been with Larkmead ever since.



*From left: Winemaker Avery Heelan at work in the cellar, Vineyard Manager Nabor Camarena has championed the restoration of Selby Creek and the Napa River across the Larkmead estate, Nabor and Avery walk the vineyard together throughout the growing season.*

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## THE WINES

The core of Larkmead's wine collection comprises four distinguished labels, each offering a unique portrait of the estate's remarkable scale and diversity. Cabernet Sauvignon is assembled from a range of vineyard blocks, uniting the estate's many soil types and clonal selections into a single, complex expression. *Firebelle* is a traditional Bordeaux-style blend, led by Merlot and crafted with elegance and structure. *Lillie*, the estate's illustrious Sauvignon Blanc, is produced in limited quantities and aged in a combination of new and neutral French oak barrels, lending depth and distinctive character. The flagship Larkmead wine is *Solari*, comprised of 100% Cabernet Sauvignon, captures the balance and purity of the estate vineyard. A compelling and classic expression of Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, *Solari* reveals signature notes of bramble, violets, and baking spice—hallmarks of the storied Larkmead estate vineyard.

### 2024 LARKMEAD LILLIE ESTATE SAUVIGNON BLANC

Composition	Production	Alcohol	Soil Profile	French Oak Aging	Release Date	SRP
100% Sauvignon Blanc	848 Cases	14.5%	Pleasanton Loam	30% New	April 2026	\$75

"A fruit-driven yet refined sauvignon blanc with aromas of citrus blossoms, lemon confit, salted nuts and fresh pineapple. The palate is taut and minerally, with fine acidity and a slightly saline finish. Nicely constructed 94 Points" - **James Suckling, January 2026**

### 2023 LARKMEAD FIREBELLE ESTATE RED BLEND

Composition	Production	Alcohol	Soil Profile	French Oak Aging	Release Date	SRP
63% Merlot 21% Cabernet Sauvignon 14% Cabernet Franc 2% Petit Verdot	1,365 Cases	14.7%	Pleasanton Loam	22 Months, 64% New	March 2026	\$100

"It's clearly the finest vintage of this wine I've tasted... It has a concentrated, layered mouthfeel, plenty of mid-palate depth, integrated oak, and a great finish. 94 Points" - **Jeb Dunnuck, January 2026**

### 2023 LARKMEAD ESTATE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Composition	Production	Alcohol	Soil Profile	French Oak Aging	Release Date	SRP
100% Cabernet Sauvignon	2,330 Cases	14.7%	Cortina Gravel Pleasanton Loam	22 Months, 76% New	March 2026	\$125

"This wine has energy and freshness. The succulent palate is refined, pure and silky... Highly drinkable, ageable and enjoyable. 95 Points" - **James Suckling, January 2026**

### 2022 LARKMEAD SOLARI ESTATE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Composition	Production	Alcohol	Soil Profile	French Oak Aging	Release Date	SRP
100% Cabernet Sauvignon	1,202 Cases	14.7%	Cortina Gravel Bale Loam	22 Months, 81% New	September 2024	\$200

"Yet another fantastic release from Larkmead... This wine showcases remarkable sophistication, with a harmonious balance and refined structure. 96 Points" - **International Wine Report, April 2025**

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