LUPINE HILL



2003 MERLOT

Harvest Date: October, 2003

Harvest Analysis: 25.2% Brix 4.2 grams/l TA 3.75 pH

Pre-Fermentation Maceration: 72 hours at 60 degrees F.

Pumpover Regime: 2 times a day with aeration until dryness

Maximum Fermentation Temperature: 88 *degrees F.*

Total Skin Contact: *14 days*

Barrel Aging: 24 months in French and American oak

Blend Composition: 86.5% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2.5% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot

Alcohol: 14.6%

Case Production: 437 Cases

Notes from our Winemaker

Owing to the small percentages of blending varietals used and aging in French and American oak, the 2003 Lupine Hill Merlot is a soft, round, fruity wine with aromas of raspberries and toasted almonds. The flavors of Bing cherries, strawberries, spearmint, with kisses of cinnamon and dill are surrounded by vanilla and coconut. A lively wine which served at cellar temperature can be used as an aperitif while cooking or accompanied by grilled meats or poultry.

JOHN GIBSON, winemaker

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