Merkato 6-Phase Roadmap (with Logistics Integration)

# Phase 1 — Foundations

Timeline: 2–3 weeks

## Key Features

* - User roles: Customer, Vendor, Admin
* - DB schema includes delivery\_time fields
* - Basic dashboards
* - Deployment to Vercel/Render/Supabase
* - Health checks + CI/CD setup

## Definition of Done

Users can log in by role, dashboards visible, DB persists users

# Phase 2 — Catalog & Product Management

Timeline: 2–3 weeks

## Key Features

* - Vendor KYC/approval by Admin
* - Vendor dashboard for product CRUD
* - Customer catalog: categories, filters, product pages
* - Delivery Time Setter: vendor sets per-product delivery estimates
* - Admin sets global delivery defaults

## Definition of Done

Admin approves vendor → Vendor uploads product → Customers see with delivery time estimate

# Phase 3 — Cart & Checkout

Timeline: 2–3 weeks

## Key Features

* - Cart with multi-vendor support
* - Checkout flow: shipping address, payment gateway
* - Vendor-managed shipping option (flat rate, delivery estimates)
* - Customer chooses delivery option at checkout
* - Admin can override vendor delivery time

## Definition of Done

Customer adds item to cart → Completes checkout with delivery estimate visible → Vendor receives order

# Phase 4 — Orders & Fulfillment

Timeline: 2–4 weeks

## Key Features

* - Vendors accept/reject orders
* - Shipping label generation via carrier APIs
* - Real-time tracking integration
* - Customer order tracking & return requests
* - Vendor/admin manual override of status
* - Delivery KPIs tracking (speed, return rate)

## Definition of Done

Vendor accepts order → Generates label → Customer can track → Return requests possible

# Phase 5 — Payments & Finance

Timeline: 2–3 weeks

## Key Features

* - Commission system (e.g., 5%)
* - Vendor payouts via Stripe Connect or regional gateways
* - Invoices/receipts auto-generated
* - Refund & dispute management
* - Shipping costs integrated into payouts and commissions

## Definition of Done

Customer pays → Platform cut calculated → Vendor payout visible → Invoice generated

# Phase 6 — Admin Ops & Logistics Hubs

Timeline: 2–4 weeks

## Key Features

* - Regional hub support: inventory, bulk consolidation, returns
* - Admin logistics dashboard (carrier performance, hub turnover, SLA compliance)
* - Vendor performance metrics (on-time %, returns)
* - Global delivery time overrides
* - Peak season contingency planning

## Definition of Done

Admin can manage hubs, vendors see performance metrics, SLA monitoring active, customers receive hub-optimized deliveries