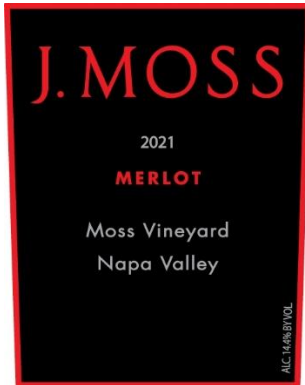


# J. MOSS

## 2021 Moss Estate Vineyard Napa Valley Merlot



### Harvest Date

October 11, 2021

### Vineyard Appellation:

Napa Valley, CA

### Varietals composition

100% Merlot

Alcohol 14.4%

pH 3.64 TA .58 g/l

### Aging

28 months on 100% New  
French Oak

### Proprietor/Winemaker

James W. Moss

### 2021 Growing Season

The 2021 growing season was colder than average with a drier than average spring. There were four total heat events over the growing season with the May and September heat events being outside the typical range for that time of year. The summer growing conditions were exceptionally good, making for ideal berry development. Both bloom and veraison, which typically last two to three weeks, happened in about a week! The start of harvest was early due to September being very warm. The yields for the year were below average, but from a quality standpoint, it was a vintage year!

### Winemaking

The grapes were hand-harvested in passes at dawn mid-October at 26 Brix. The grapes were picked cool at 48 F, destemmed, cold soaked for 4 days to gently optimize extraction of tannins, color and fresh fruit, then fermented in small lot one ton open top fermenters. The grapes were punched down by hand two to three times a day until dry. The wine was pressed to barrels for malolactic fermentation, then racked into 100% French Oak barrels for 26 months elevage, which will add complex flavors and aromatics. Each barrel was hand racked three times and bottled with techniques that ensure maximum protection for aging cellar-worthy collector caliber wines.

### Tasting notes

This limited production Merlot has an enticing nose that leads to a smooth mouthfeel that's packed with a mix of layered flavors of blackberry, blueberry, black cherry, mocha and dark bright plum. This enjoyable full-bodied wine has nice structure and is balanced with soft tannins that lead to an outstanding finish that will have you say WOW.