Opportunities for the Australian Wine Sector in 2030, and beyond

by Richard Smart

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My experience...

- I have been interested in vineyards and climatology for 48 years
- My first awareness of climate change was at Cornell University in around 1974
- I spoke to OIV General Assembly in Luxembourg in 1989 on "Appellation and projected global warming".
- I have suggested to OIV and GWRDC that there needs to be a concerted, international breeding program for new varieties for hot regions

Putting today in context....

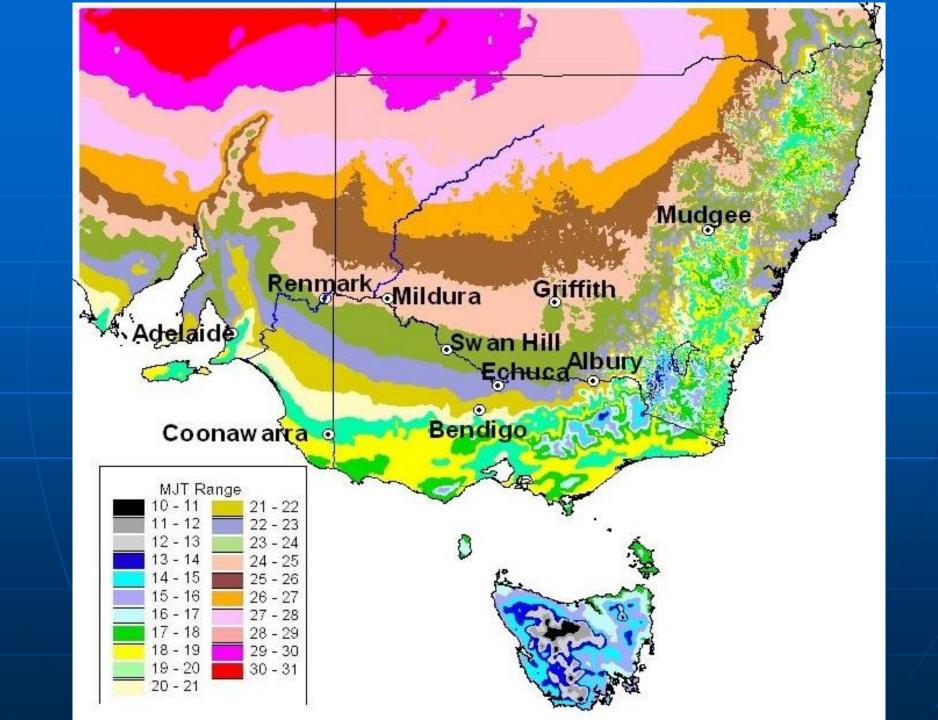
- Aim is to tease out opportunities
- (But the sector has no will, or ability?, to do strategic planning...

We might consider

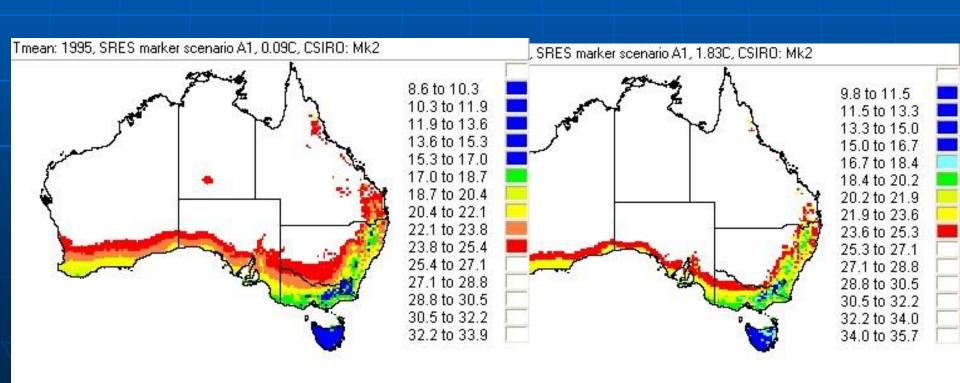
- Australia
 - Marketplace
 - Regions
 - Varieties
 - People

Australia at the cross roads

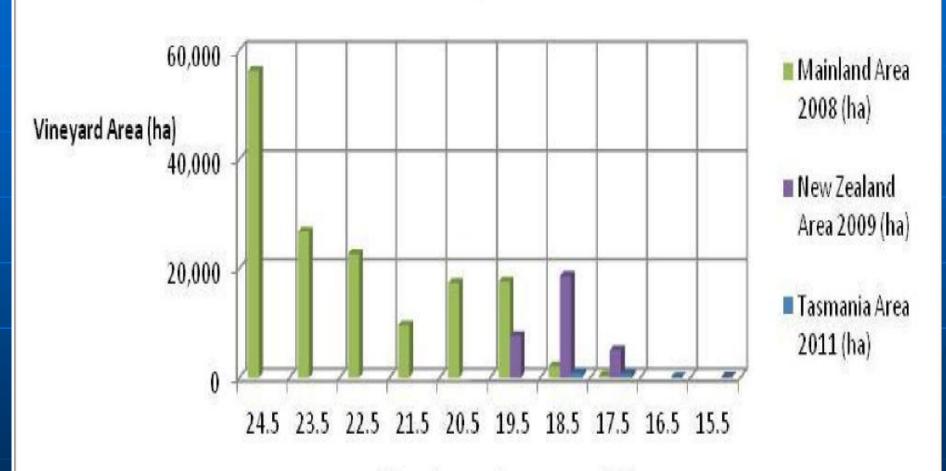
- Australia needs a makeover...
- It is sliding into furthering a reputation as a second rate bulk wine producing nation, to the detriment of genuine fine wine production and export
- Much of Australia's wine production is from varieties grown "out of place"



THE SHRINKAGE OF THE AUSTRALIAN WINE SECTOR



COMPARISON OF VINEYARD AREA FOR MAINLAND AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND TASMANIA



Mean January Temperature (° C)

Wine Business is Real Estate Business

- When you buy land, in fact you are buying the climate where it sits
- LAND VALUE = CLIMATE VALUE
 (for given variety or varieties)

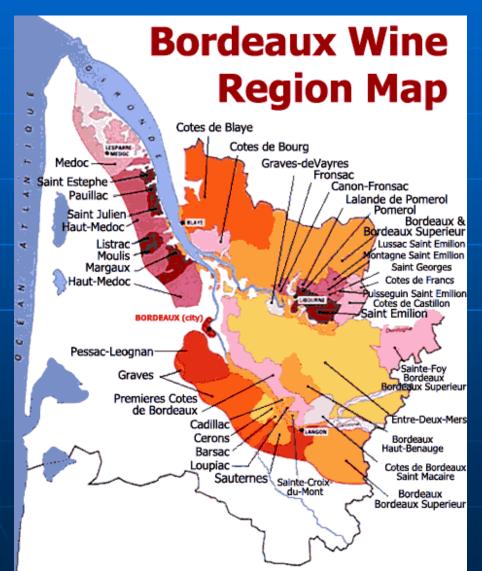
In time get development of regional equity

THE PRESENT, AN EXAMPLE....FRANCE

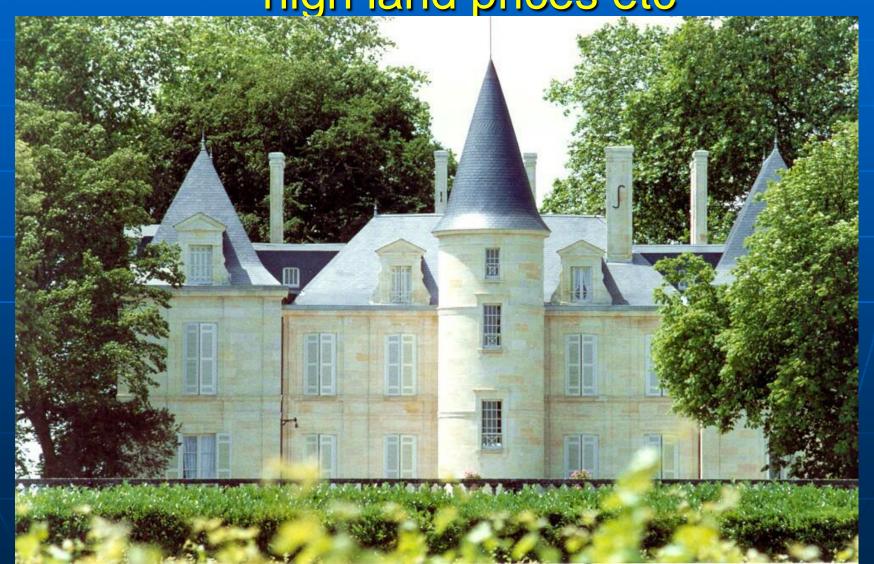


Discrete regions due to to temperature by variety interaction

A FURTHER EXAMPLE...BORDEAUX WINE REGIONS



 Zones of speciality for Cabernet
 Sauvignon,
 Cabernet Franc,
 Merlot, Sauvignon,
 Semillon etc Reputation gives tradition, infrastructure, services, investment, high land prices etc



OPPORTUNITIES

- Change Variety, easy for some...
- Change Region, go south or up, more difficult.....

CONCLUSION

Don't think CLIMATE CHANGE

Think

CLIMATE CHOICE