

South African Pinot Noir: Finding Its home in the Cape

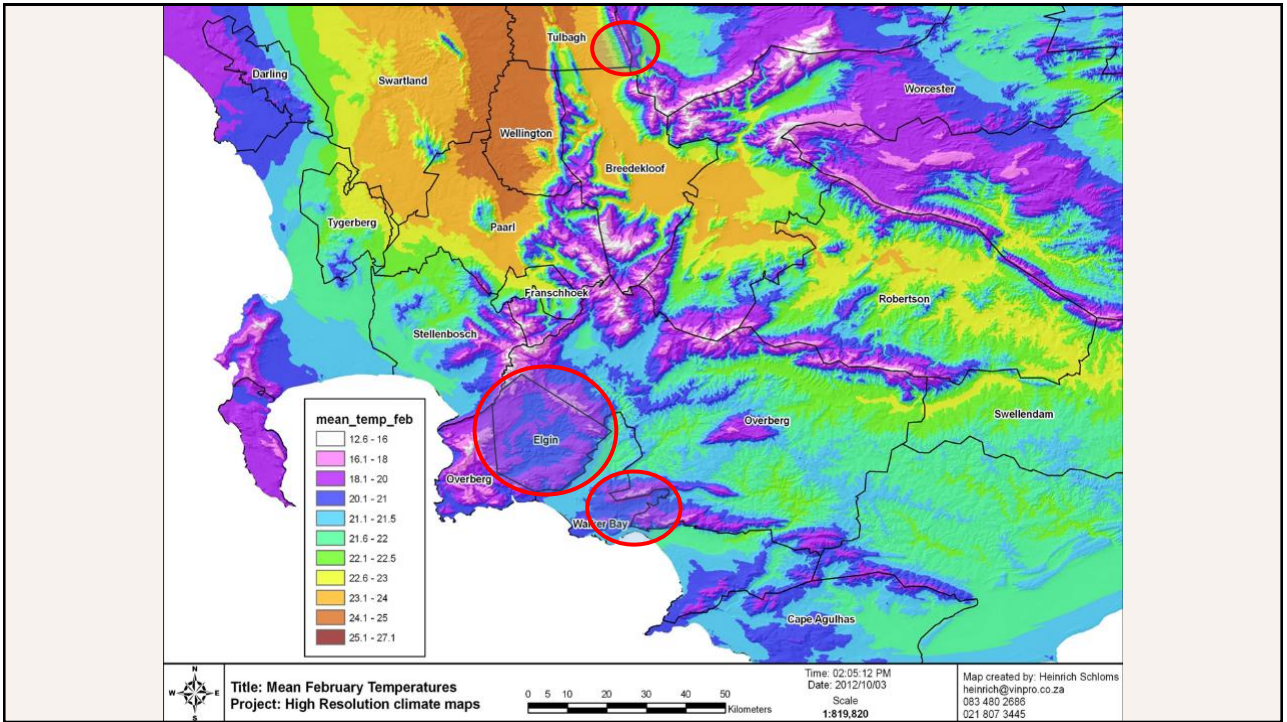
JIM CLARKE, WINES OF SOUTH AFRICA



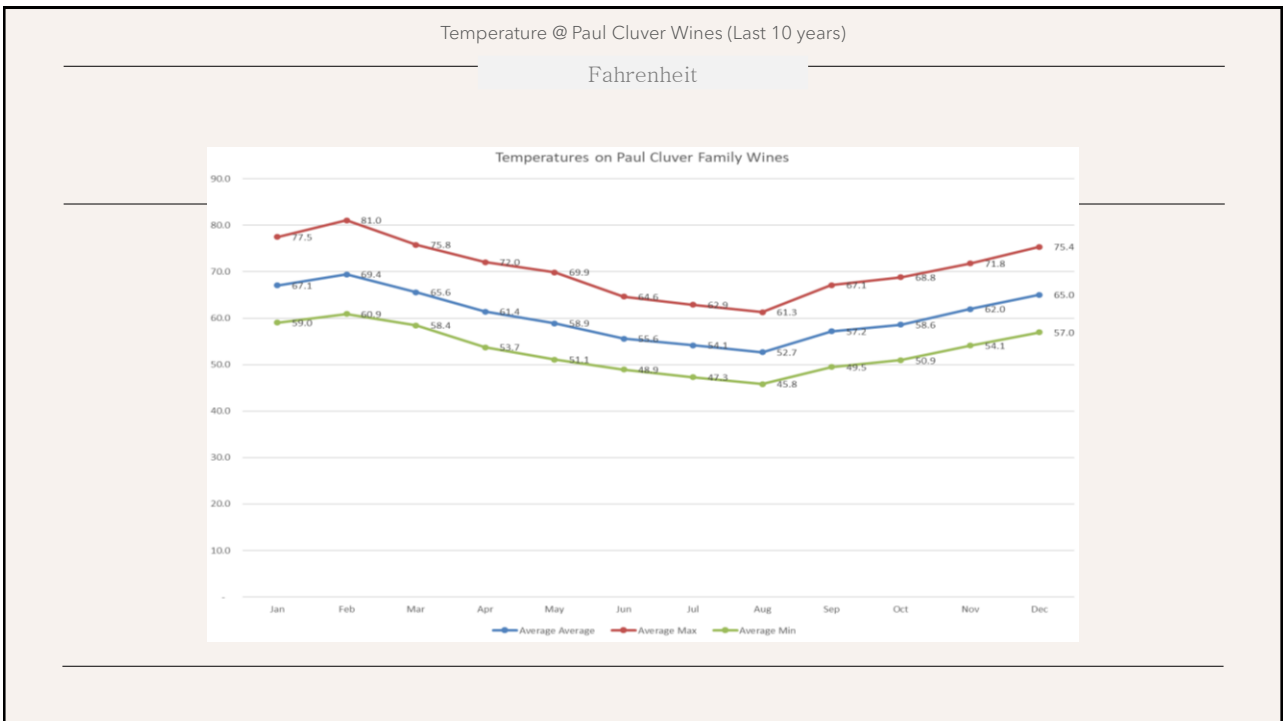
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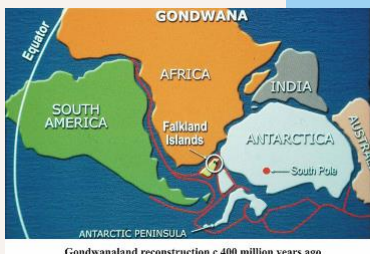
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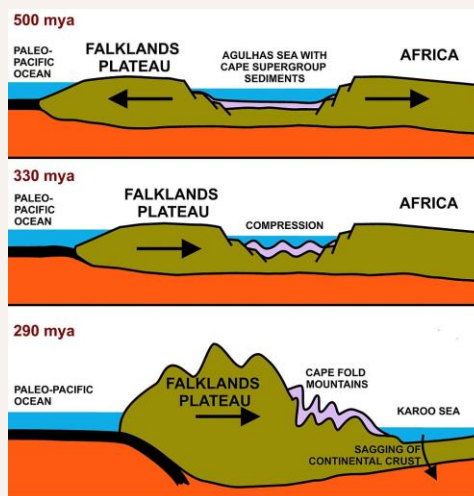
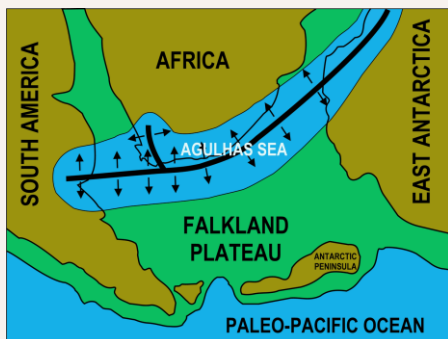
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Southern Africa Geology

The collision of the African and South American continents crumpled up the margin deposits of the Cape Supergroup into highly deformed (folded and faulted) mountain belts.



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SOIL

Oldest soils in the world.

There is great soil diversity over short distances.

In the coastal zone, the general pattern is sandstone mountains, often resting on granite intrusions, whereas **further inland** shale parent material and river deposits usually predominate

The Three Most Important Soil Types

Derived from Table Mountain Sandstone

Sandy with low nutrient and water-retention properties

(Fernwood, Longlands, Westleigh, Dundee).

Derived from Granite

Usually red to yellow coloured, acidic, and found on mountain foothill slopes and on ranges of hills, with good physical and water-retention properties

(Oakleaf, Tukululu, Hutton, Clovelly)

Derived from Shale

Usually brownish, strongly structured, on partly decomposed parent rock, with good nutrient reserves and water-retention properties (Glenrosa, Swartland, Klapmuts, Estcourt).

PIONEERING ELGIN EXCELLENCE

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A Brief History of Pinot Noir in South Africa

1920s: Abraham Izak Perold returns from Europe with 177 cuttings, including Pinot Noir

1924: Perold plants seedlings of a Pinot Noir - Cinsulat cross that will become Pinotage

1927: Muratie, in Stellenbosch, plants Pinot Noir vines

1976: Timothy Hamilton Russell plants vines in the Hemel-en-Aarde, including Pinot Noir

1985: Anthony Rawbone-Viljoen plants Pinot Noir vines in Elgin

1989: Paul Clüver plants 3.5 ha (8.6 acres) of Pinot Noir vines in Elgin

1991: Hamilton Russell Vineyards focuses solely on Chardonnay and Pinot Noir

1994: Paul Clüver makes their first Pinot Noir

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South African Pinot Noir Today

Pinot Noir represents just 1.4% of South Africa's vineyards - 2,892 acres
 (Willamette Valley: 21,344 acres; Burgundy 20,900 acres; California 46,608 acres)
 Most South African Pinot Noir is destined for Cap Classique production

Plantings:

Stellenbosch 583 acres Robertson 578 acres Franschoek 143 acres

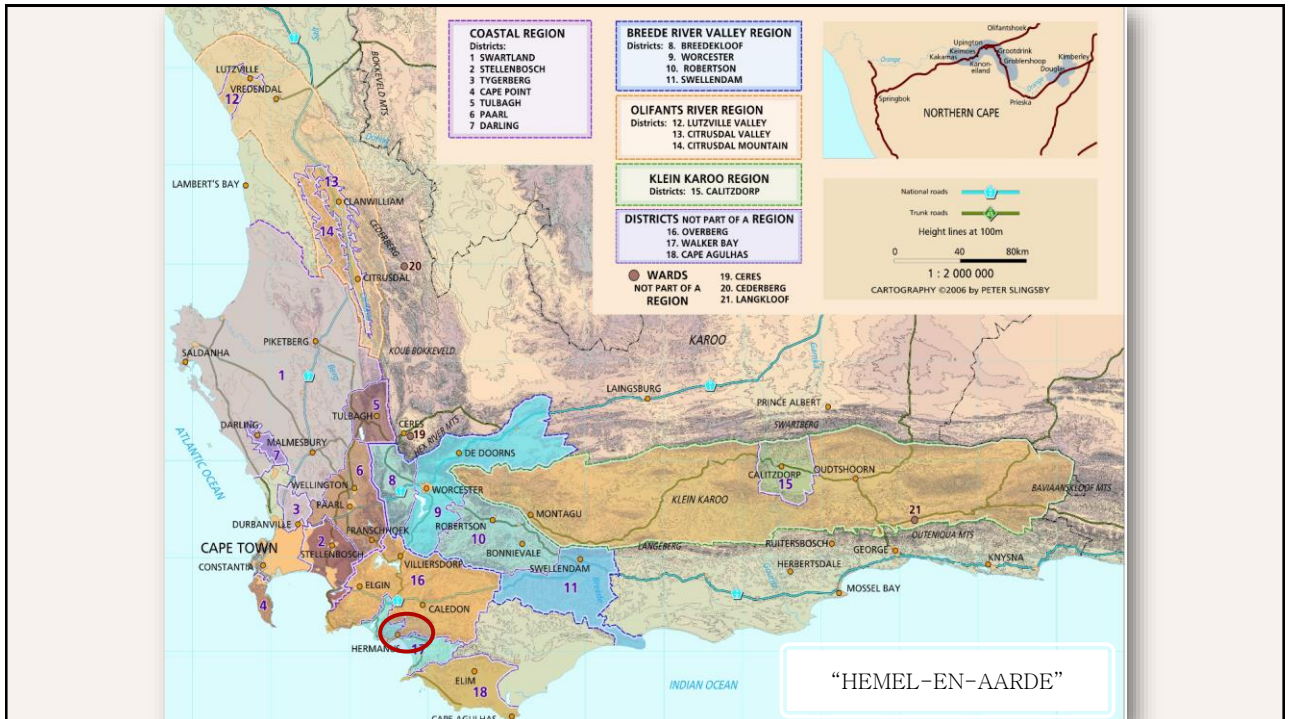
Walker Bay 368 acres:

Hemel-en-Aarde Valley 59 acres Upper Hemel-en-Aarde 96 acres Hemel-en-Aarde Ridge 136 acres

Elgin 287 acres

Ceres Plateau 27 acres

Elandsloof 23 acres





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Hamilton Russell Vineyards



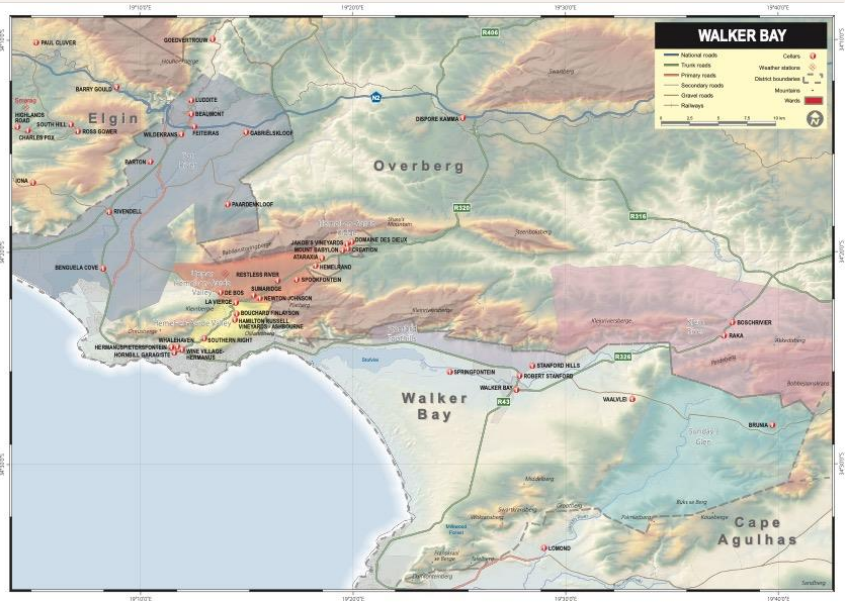
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STORM

Hemel-en-Aarde Ridge:
"Ridge"

Upper Hemel-en-Aarde
Valley" Ignis"

Hemel-en-Aarde Valley
"Vrede"



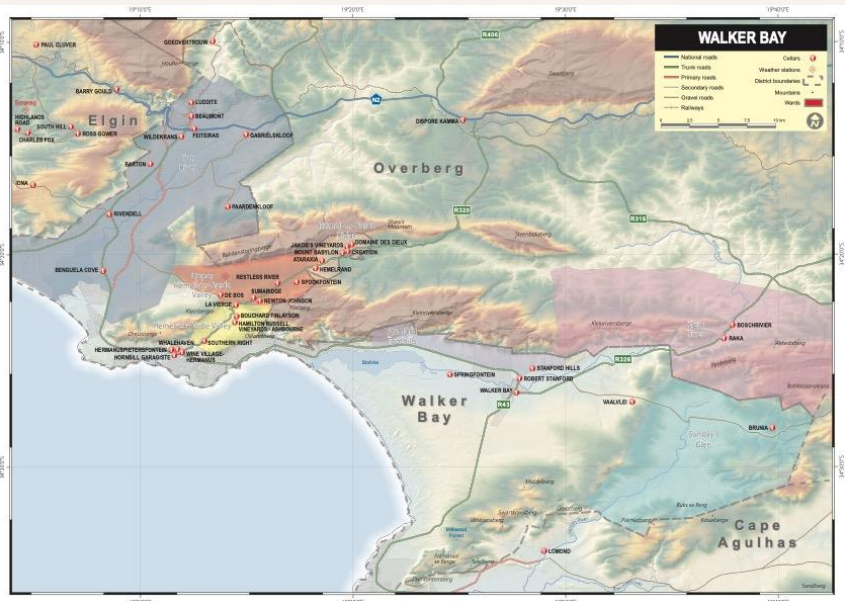
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Other Producers

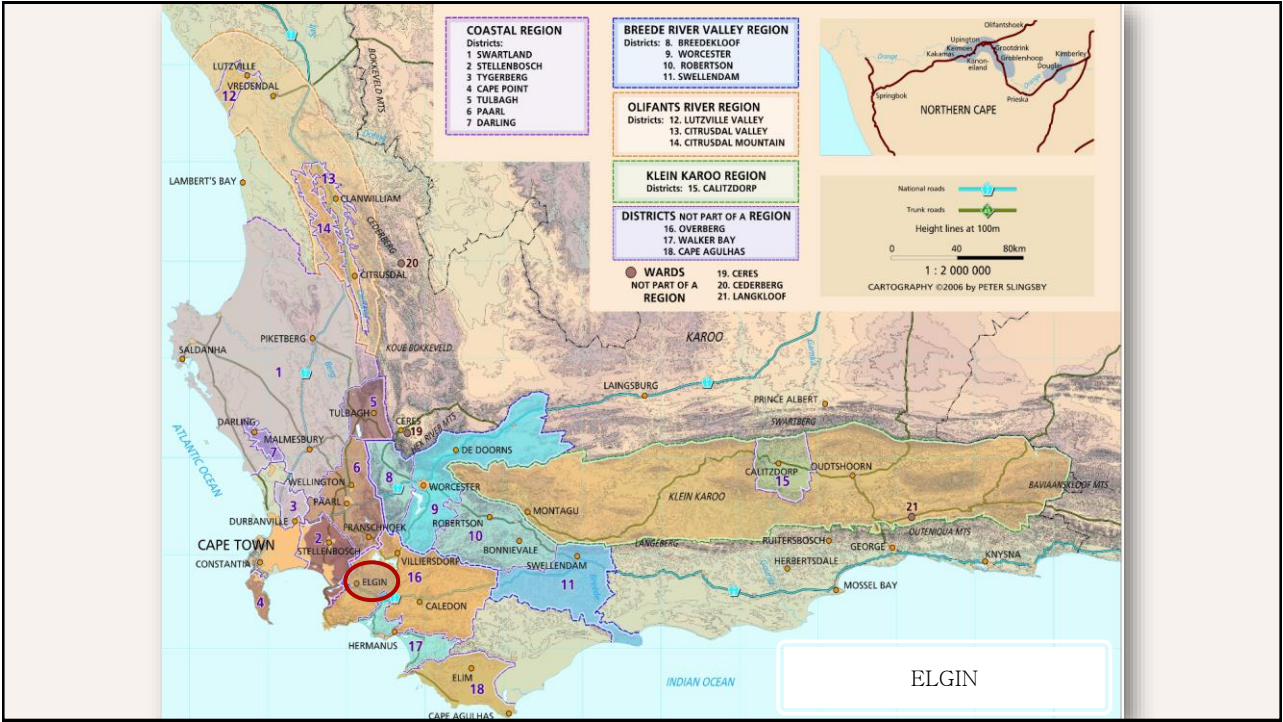
Hemel-en-Aarde Ridge:
Creation, Ataraxia,
Tesselaarsdal

Upper Hemel-en-Aarde
Valley: Bosman, Newton
Johnson, Restless River

Hemel-en-Aarde Valley:
Bouchard Finlayson



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Elgin

Important Elgin-based producers: Paul Clüver, Iona, Richard Kershaw, Moya Meaker, Shannon (downes Family)

Producers from outside the W.O.: Catherine Marshall, Sutherland (Thelema), Boschendal, Lismore

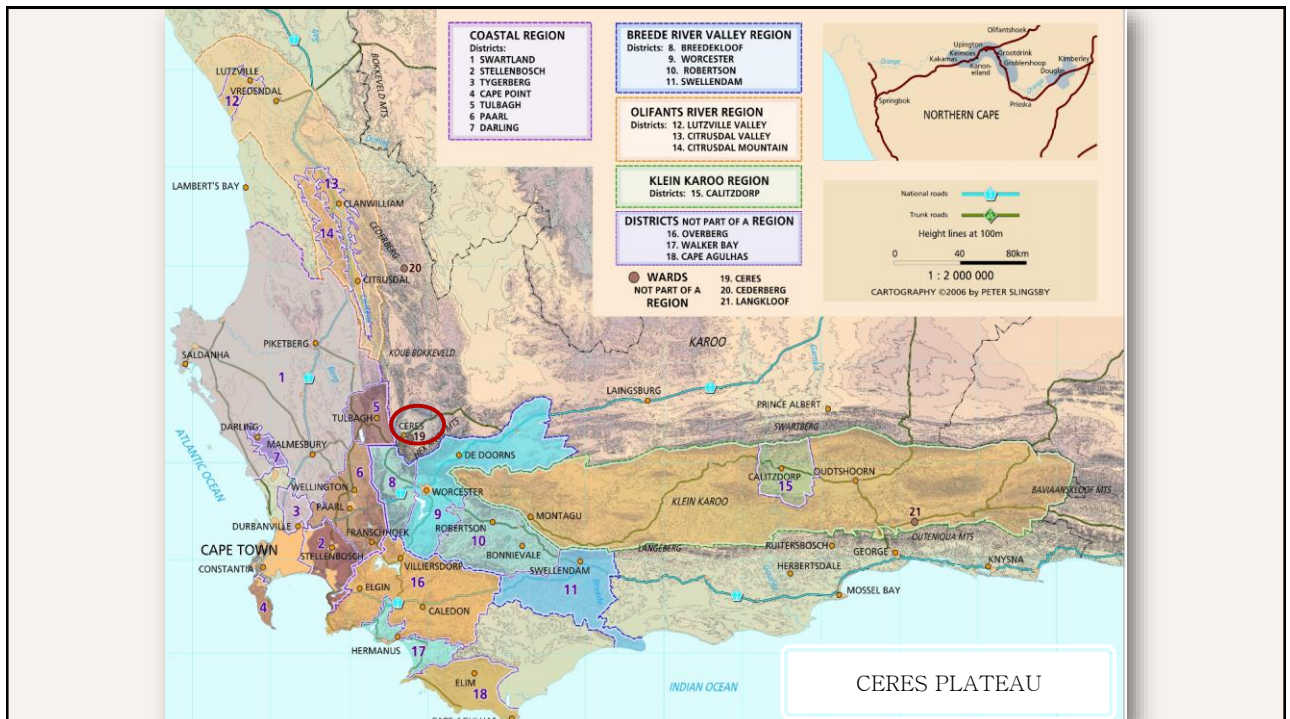
A topographic map of the Elgin wine region in South Africa. The map shows the Elgin area, including the town of Elgin and surrounding vineyards. Key locations marked include Overberg and Walker Bay. The map features a legend in the top right corner with symbols for roads, rivers, and vineyards. The terrain is color-coded to show elevation, with higher elevations in yellow and orange, and lower elevations in green and blue. The map is framed by a grid of latitude and longitude lines.

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Ceres Plateau Vineyards



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De Grendel



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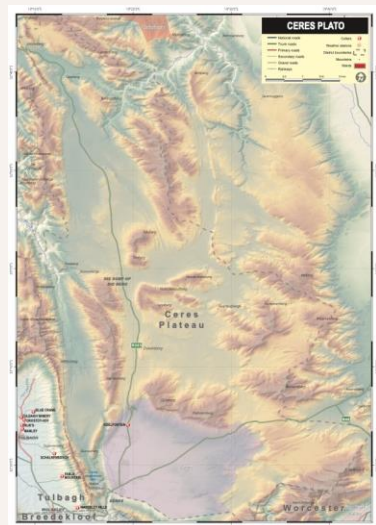
CERES PLATEAU

Important Producers:

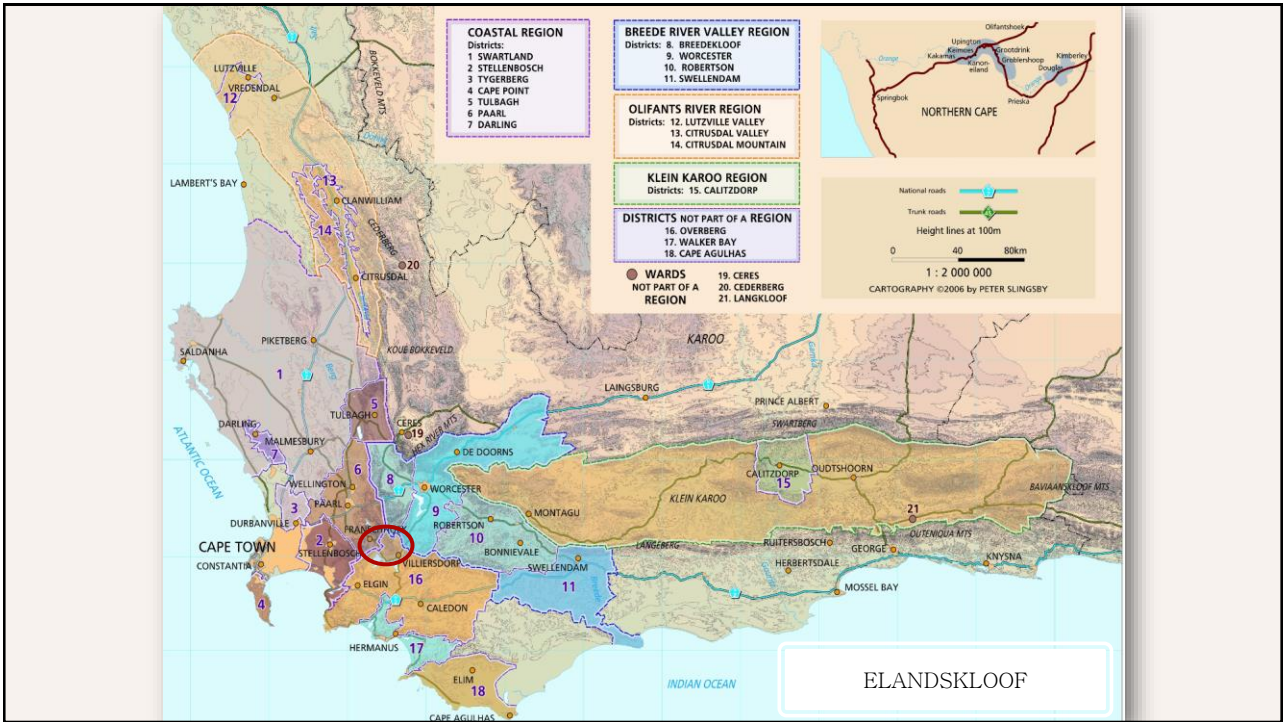
De Grendel

Vino pH

Cirrus



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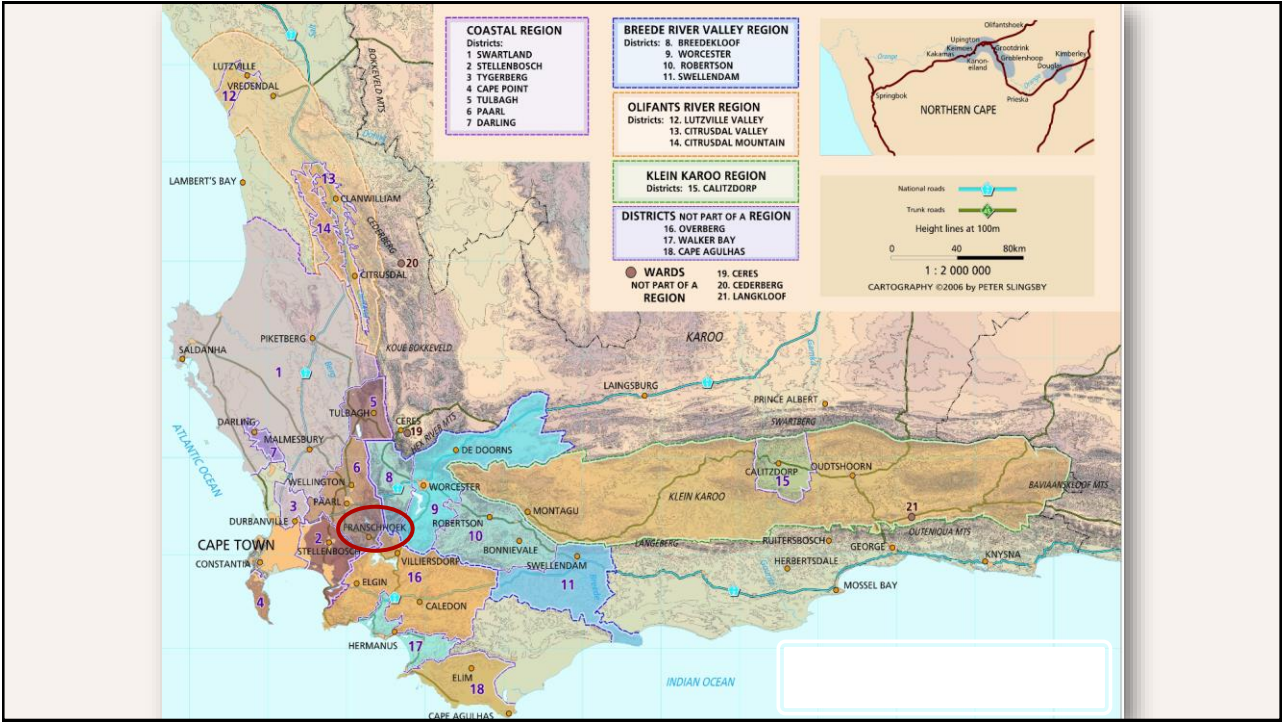
ELANDSKLOOF

Important Producers:

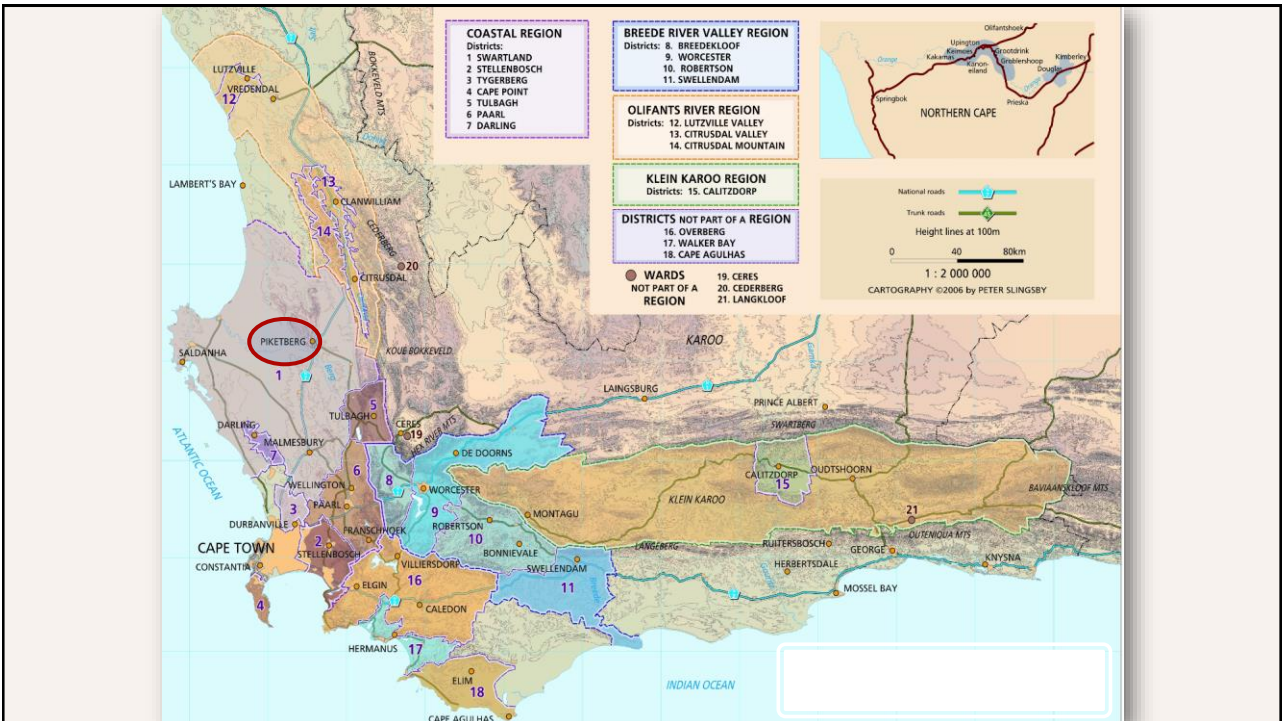
- Crystallum
- Bouchard Finlayson
- Saurwein
- J.H. Meyer
- Antonij Rupert (Cape of Good Hope)



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