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**Economic Environment**

**Australian negotiators arrive to begin post-Brexit trade talks**

Australian officials are ready to begin work on a free-trade deal with the UK, and have recently flown in to begin hammering out the details of a landmark pact, the country’s top official in Britain has revealed.

A deal could make goods such as wine, beef and dairy products cheaper as UK shoppers would no longer have to pay the EU’s import taxes, while Australia is a big buyer of British cars.

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**Major Wine Producing Countries**

**WOSA appoints new communications manager**

Wines of South Africa (WOSA), the not-for-profit industry organisation which promotes the exports of all South African wine, has appointed editor and wine writer, Maryna Strachan, as communications manager, effective from 1 November.

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**Why the French want in on South Africa´s wine**

For the past 20 years, South Africa's Cabernets and Chardonnays have fought hard to compete with their Old World rivals, which lean upon the strong reputation of historic wine making regions such as Bordeaux and Bourgogne.

But now the fight is paying off. From success in new markets such as China and the U.S. to record auction prices and high scores in blind tastings, South African wines are gaining recognition and big players are taking note.
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