

Rā Tuatahi – Rāpare 17 Mahuru 2026

Day 1 – Thursday 17 September 2026

Wāhanga (session) 3: Case Studies



WARREN GIBSON



WARREN GIBSON

Chief Winemaker



AN EXPLORATION OF HOW PLACE AND TERROIR SHAPE CHARDONNAY

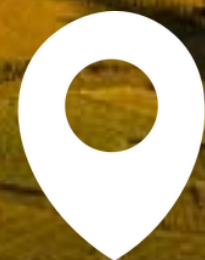
*Tasting through these four wines should represent my personal
take on winemaking from these different places.*



PYRAMID VALLEY

2022 Lion's Tooth Chardonnay

Harvest Date: 28 April 2022



CANTERBURY

Waikari Estate, North Canterbury





PYRAMID VALLEY

NEW ZEALAND

PYRAMID VALLEY
VINEYARDS

ANGEL FLOWER

LIONS TOOTH

EARTH SMOKE

FIELD OF FIRE



PYRAMID VALLEY

NEW ZEALAND

Photo credit: Richard Brimer





PYRAMID VALLEY

NEW ZEALAND



BILANCIA

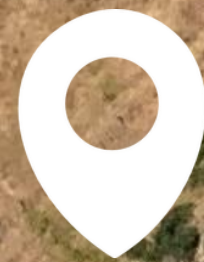
2021 Tiratore Chardonay

Harvest Dates:

1st March 2021 (Clones 15),

8th March 2021 (Clones 548 and B95)





HAWKE'S BAY

Roy's Hill



Photo credit: Richard Brimer



BILANCIA



TRINITY HILL

2021 125 Gimblett Chardonnay

Harvest Date: 27th February 2021



HAWKE'S BAY

Gimblett Gravels





TH
TRINITY HILL





T

TRINITY HILL

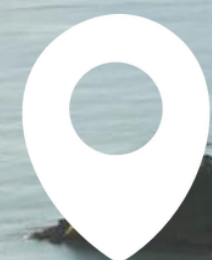


THE LANDING

2021 Madre Chardonnay

Harvest Dates: February 9th, 13th, and 25th 2021





NORTHLAND

Bay of Islands





THE LANDING

BAY OF ISLANDS NEW ZEALAND

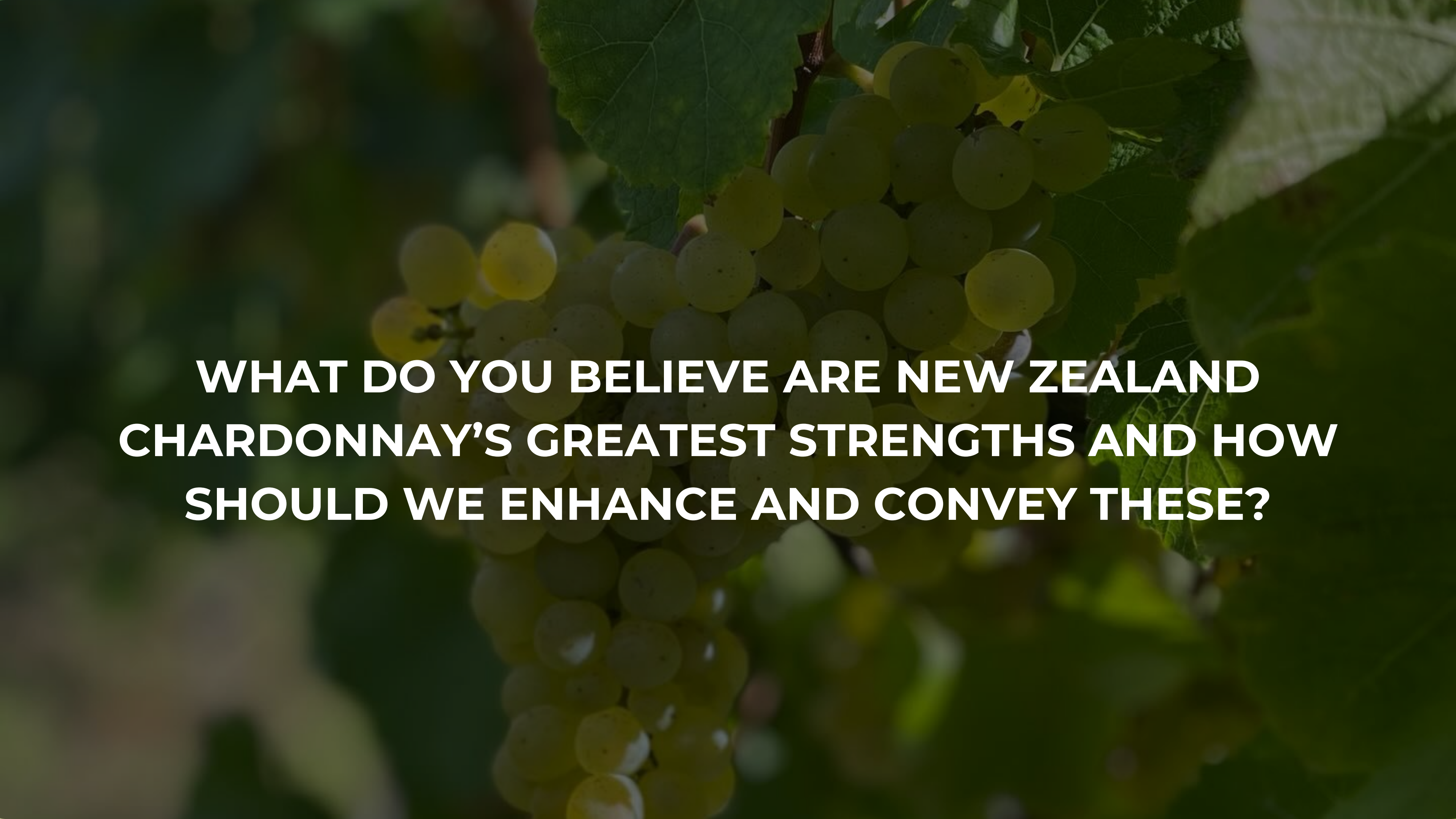




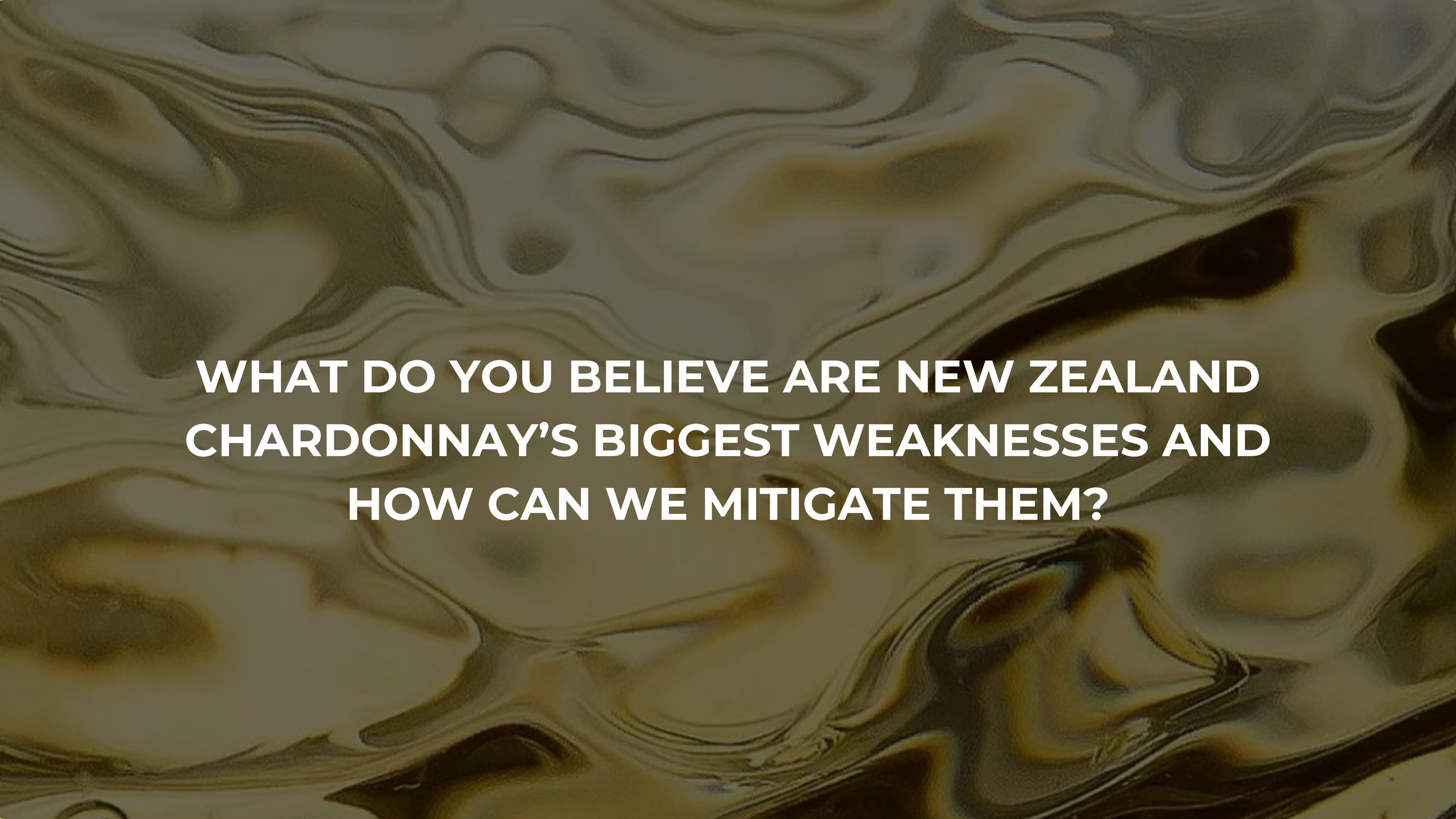
THE LANDING

BAY OF ISLANDS NEW ZEALAND

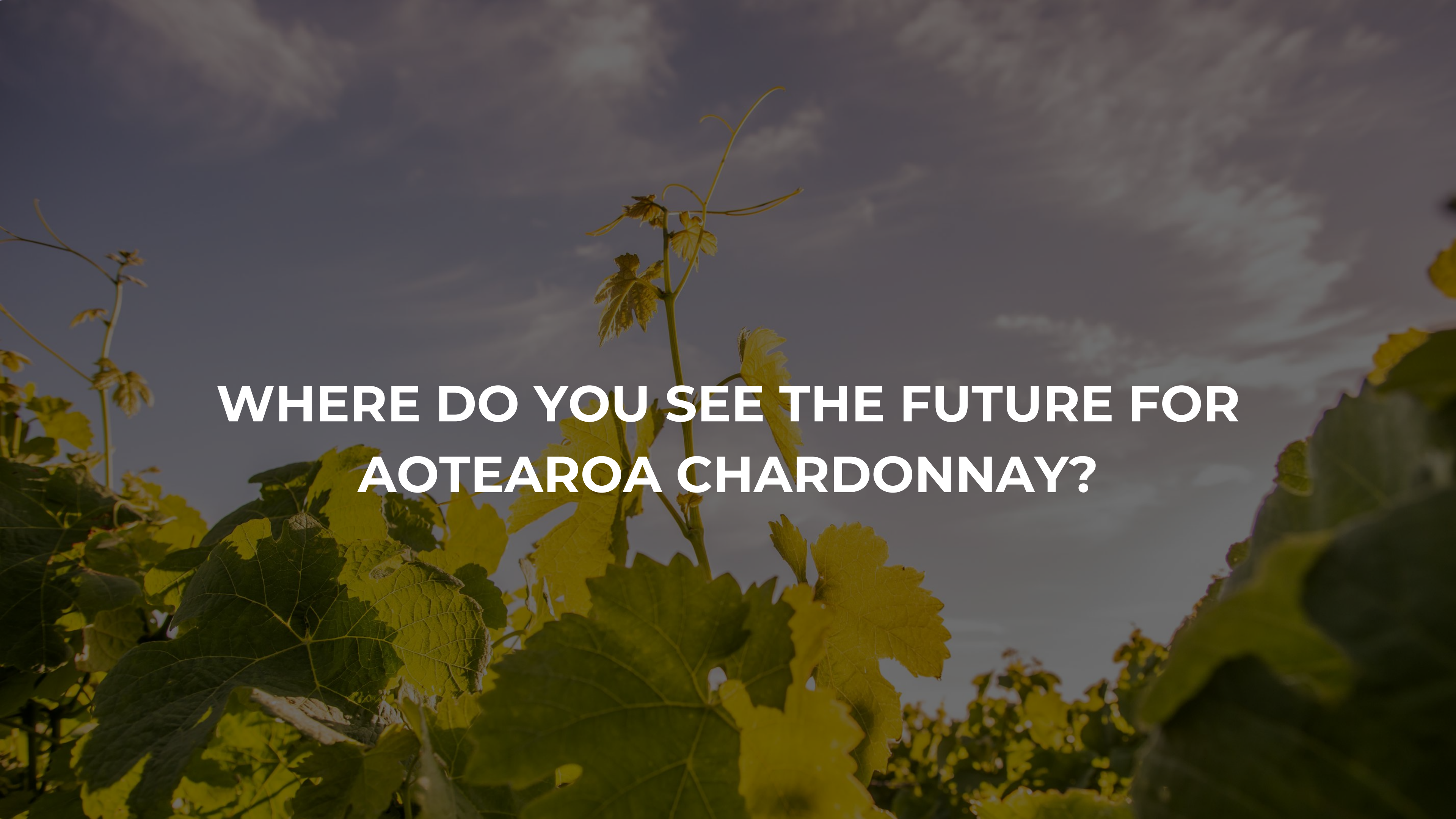




**WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE ARE NEW ZEALAND
CHARDONNAY'S GREATEST STRENGTHS AND HOW
SHOULD WE ENHANCE AND CONVEY THESE?**



**WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE ARE NEW ZEALAND
CHARDONNAY'S BIGGEST WEAKNESSES AND
HOW CAN WE MITIGATE THEM?**



**WHERE DO YOU SEE THE FUTURE FOR
AOTEAROA CHARDONNAY?**

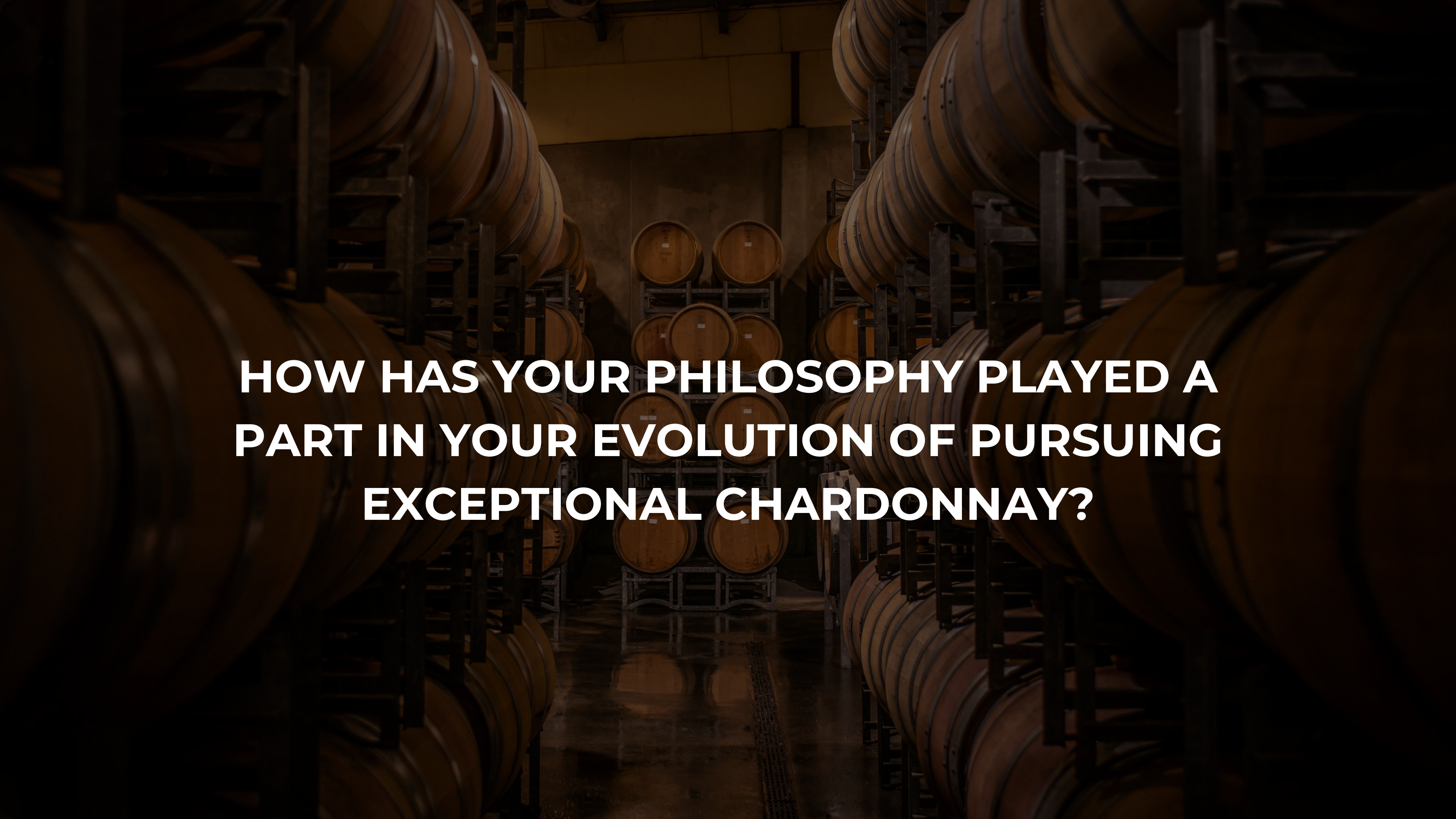
A close-up photograph of three glasses filled with sparkling wine, with bubbles rising to the surface. The glasses are arranged in a triangular pattern. In the background, a bottle of sparkling wine is tilted, pouring the liquid into one of the glasses. The lighting is soft, highlighting the clarity and effervescence of the wine. The overall tone is elegant and sophisticated.

**WHAT DOES QUALITY CHARDONNAY
MEAN TO YOU?**

A close-up photograph of a vine trunk, likely a grapevine, standing in a dry, rocky landscape. The ground is covered with numerous smooth, greyish-brown stones of various sizes, interspersed with dry, brown pine needles and some small green plants. The vine trunk is dark, textured, and appears to be a dead or dormant branch. The lighting is warm and directional, casting soft shadows. Overlaid on the center of the image is white text.

SITE CHALLENGES IN PURSUIT OF QUALITY IN THE VINES

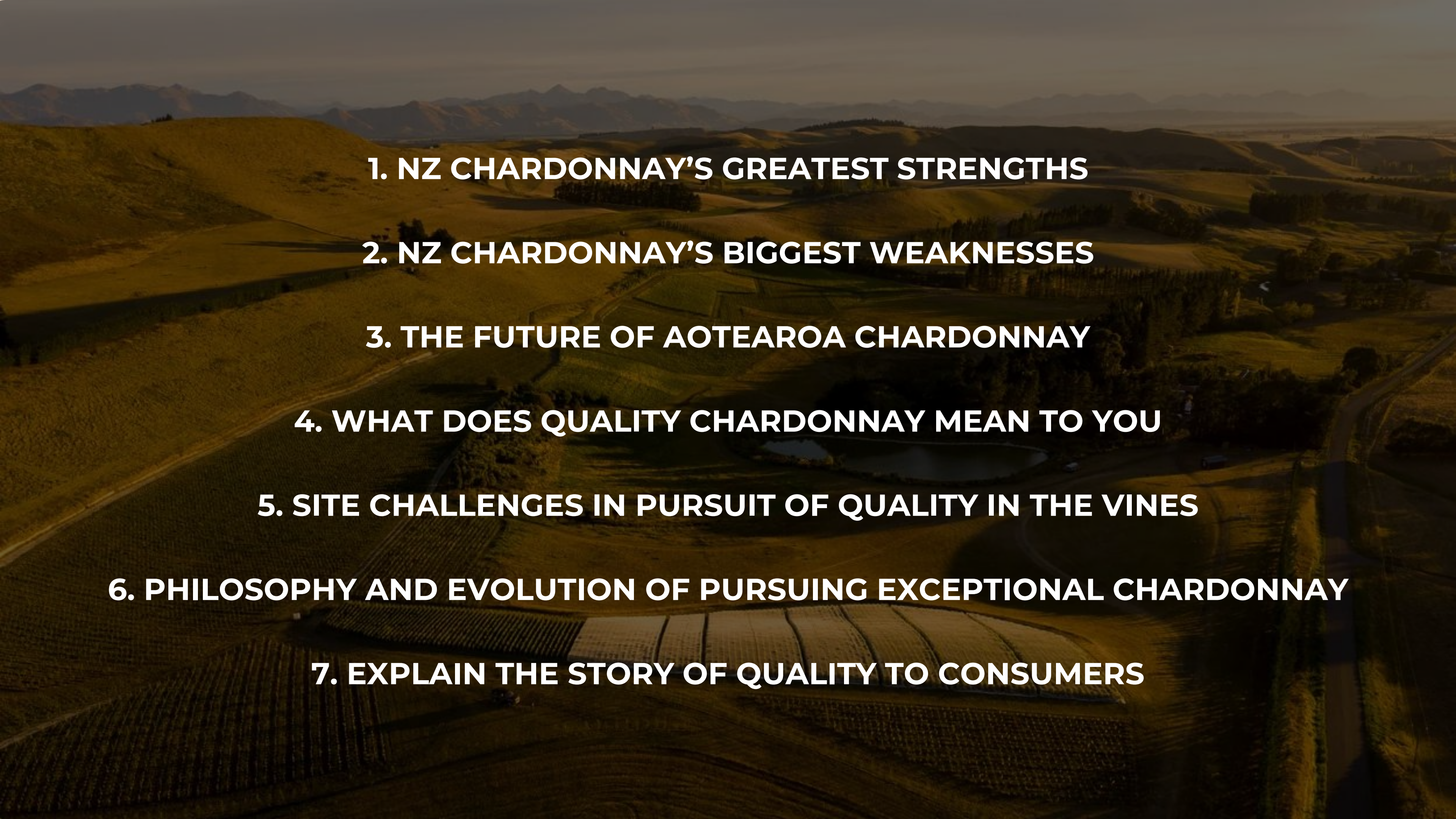
(above & below ground)

A dimly lit wine cellar with rows of wooden barrels on metal racks. The barrels are arranged in long, narrow aisles that recede into the distance. The lighting is warm and focused on the barrels, creating a sense of depth and atmosphere. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

**HOW HAS YOUR PHILOSOPHY PLAYED A
PART IN YOUR EVOLUTION OF PURSUING
EXCEPTIONAL CHARDONNAY?**

A wide-angle photograph of a vast vineyard in a rolling landscape. The foreground shows rows of green grapevines, some with small clusters of grapes. A dirt road winds through the vineyard. In the background, there are rolling hills under a cloudy sky. The text "HOW DO YOU TELL AND PORTRAY THE STORY OF QUALITY TO CONSUMERS?" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

**HOW DO YOU TELL AND PORTRAY THE
STORY OF QUALITY TO CONSUMERS?**

An aerial photograph of a New Zealand vineyard landscape. The foreground shows rows of grapevines in a field. The middle ground features rolling green hills with patches of trees and a small pond. In the background, there are more hills and a range of mountains under a hazy sky. The text is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

1. NZ CHARDONNAY'S GREATEST STRENGTHS

2. NZ CHARDONNAY'S BIGGEST WEAKNESSES

3. THE FUTURE OF AOTEAROA CHARDONNAY

4. WHAT DOES QUALITY CHARDONNAY MEAN TO YOU

5. SITE CHALLENGES IN PURSUIT OF QUALITY IN THE VINES

6. PHILOSOPHY AND EVOLUTION OF PURSUING EXCEPTIONAL CHARDONNAY

7. EXPLAIN THE STORY OF QUALITY TO CONSUMERS

An aerial photograph of a vineyard with rows of grapevines. In the background, there is a lake with a wooden pier and some small boats. The text "Q & A" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Q & A