

HONG KONG TATLER

# THE FINER THINGS

*Wine, food, culture, travel and philanthropy*



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## COME FLY WITH ME

Jakki Phillips discovers impeccable service, once-in-a-lifetime adventures and five-star scenery at New Zealand's top luxury lodges

### RING OF FIRE

*Rotorua-based Volcanic Air offers private tours of White Island—one of the world's few accessible island volcanoes and New Zealand's most active*

### 310 WINE

James Suckling unveils his Top 10 Wines of the Year

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The Alfa Romeo 4C is ferociously fast and gobsmackingly beautiful

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Sophie Calle scours her life and the lives of strangers to create her art

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Investors should look to capitalise early on the vision of innovators

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Jim and Sally Thompson on the importance of hospice care



## BEST FOR HEAVENLY HOME COMFORTS: EDENHOUSE, NELSON, SOUTH ISLAND

A visit to Edenhouse is a bit like weekendening with well-to-do pals at their country estate, except you don't have to offer to wash up the Wedgewood after supper or walk the corgies. One of New Zealand's top luxury lodges and honoured by UK *Tatler* in its 101 Best Hotels of the World, this hidden gem is actually the refined home of Peter Martin and his wife Bobbie, two of the most gracious and generous hosts you're ever likely to meet. "People may arrive as strangers but most leave as friends," says Bobbie, the mastermind behind the bold and beautiful gardens that envelope the house and the creative spirit responsible for the elegant Downton Abbey-style interiors.

Sitting pretty in 19 hectares of gloriously green private grounds in the Orinoco Valley, slap bang in the heart of rural Nelson, and framed by the dramatic Mount Arthur range in the Kahurangi National Park, Edenhouse is the perfect place for those craving peace, privacy and that all-important personal touch. The Martins are delightfully sociable but also effortlessly discreet. Their motto is "our home is your home" and guests are encouraged to roam freely, explore the gardens, snooze on sunloungers on the terrace, curl up in a plump armchair by the fire or read in the library. When it comes to resting your head, there are two spacious, sunny suites in the main house with sprawling beds, enchanting views, a well-stocked fridge overflowing with boutique wines and sweet treats, and baskets stacked with sumptuous lotions and potions. Families wanting extra space—or couples seeking a romantic hideaway—should request

the quaint two-bedroom cottage located in the garden.

Better than any concierge service, Peter and Bobbie fizz with heartfelt enthusiasm for the region and know exactly the type of exclusive tours and once-in-a-lifetime activities their well-heeled patrons desire. A real must is a tour of the golden beaches, tranquil lagoons and pristine native bush of Abel Tasman National Park on Rod Stuart's boat, Taranui. Snorkel, kayak, swim and watch seal pups and blue penguins play in the waves. Be whisked away on a helicopter tour of picturesque D'Urville Island and meet some of its 52 residents. Don't head back without a stop at the ridiculously chocolate-box-pretty Hans Herzog winery. The Martins can arrange a private lunch with owners Hans and Therese, who will share the secrets of their acclaimed wines as you enjoy a delicious five-course degustation menu in

their charming eatery, which was listed in the 2014 book *1001 Restaurants You Must Experience Before You Die*.

Also not to be missed is a guided ride with Cape Farewell Horse Treks over the Old Man Range with views of 35km Farewell Spit, the world's longest natural sandbar, and fly fishing for spotted brown trout in the pristine waters of the Motueka River. Oenophiles can raise a glass in some of the 37 boutique wineries dotted across the region or join Glenn and Juliane Cormier, owners of VeloVino, on a bespoke cycling and winery tour. Don't forget your helmets. Or add to your art collection with pieces from the 350-strong local artist community. An accomplished painter herself, and the person responsible for adorning the walls of Edenhouse with everything from botanical prints to sensual nudes, Bobbie can steer you in the direction of the best buys. [edenhouse.co.nz](http://edenhouse.co.nz)



## PARADISE FOUND

Clockwise from far left: Edenhouse is nestled in the gloriously green Orinoco Valley; enjoy a glass of wine by the fire in the elegant lounge; explore Farewell Spit and Pillar Point with Cape Farewell Horse Treks

