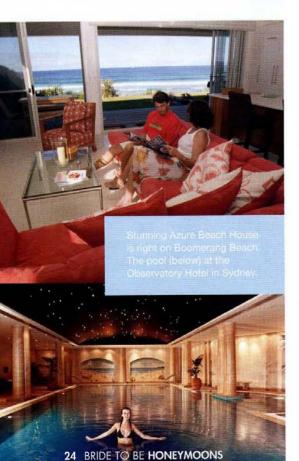


YIN & YANG HOLIDAYS

So he wants to surf and snorkel and you want to shop and spa? Marriage is about compromise so why not choose honeymoon destinations that will suit both tastes? Have it all, half and half



CITY TO SURF IN NSW

Strut the big city lights one minute, and retreat to a coastal hideaway the next.

Yin: shop and spa in Sydney

The Observatory Hotel in Sydney is pure old world, Orient Express-style luxury. It's also just a stiletto step from Sydney's shopping meccas — Pitt Street Mall, QVB, World Square and David Jones. The concierge will take care of your shopping bags while and you and hubby indulge in afternoon tea in the Salon, or La Prairie treatments in the award-winning spa. If you must get active, then climb the Harbour Bridge — it's just outside the door. www.selecthotels.com

Yang: surf at Boomerang Beach

Just three hours north of Sydney, Azure Beach House has a prime beachfront position overlooking crystal clear water and chalky white sand. Check the waves from the master bedroom or stay in and enjoy the sleek interiors, open-plan living and the totally integrated entertainment system. www.azureonthebeach.com.au

TASMANIAN IDYLL

Trek a mountain or take a turn around the garden in picturesque Tasmania

Yin: world-class retreat

Enter the Islington hotel in Hobart and prepare not to leave. Sure there's a city to explore but there are also views of Mt Wellington and tranquil serenity within the hotel's walls. The extensive garden is filled with cherry blossoms, the residence a design masterpiece and a wine cellar which will ensure you'll stay for dinner every night. www.islingtonhotel.com

Yang: commune with nature

Cradle Mountain Lodge sits high in Tasmania's Cradle Mountain National Park. Think roaring fires, billiard tables, leather lounges, wide verandahs and fine dining. The cosy lodge is big on details with an alpine spa, fly fishing, kayaking and horse riding. Cradle Mountain is known for its truly stunning lake and bushland scenery. It's wilderness to sink your trek boots into, with all the modern luxuries. www.voyages.com.au

WINE AND DINE IN SA

Sip chardonnay in the hills and then look for 'roos in the outback.

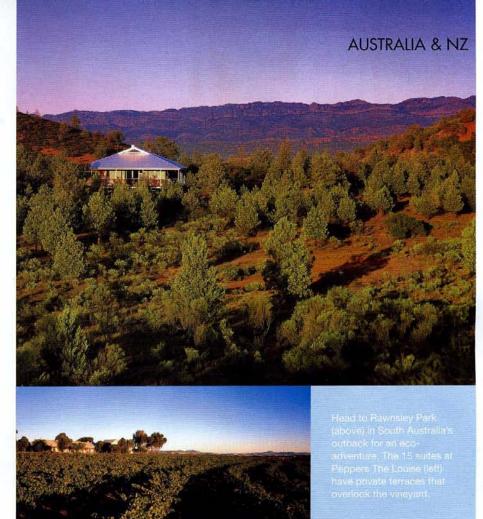
Yin: wine and dine

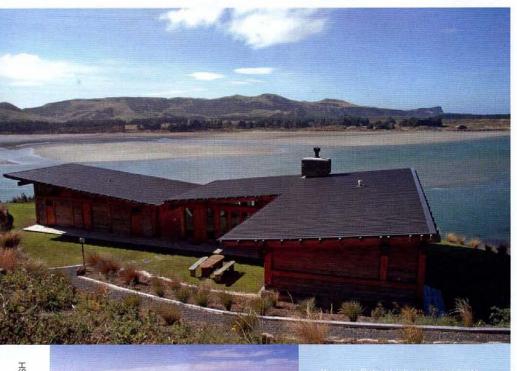
Peppers The Louise is a five-star retreat surrounded by vineyards in South Australia's Barossa Valley, just a couple hours from Adelaide. All 15 suites have private terraces, each perfect for a sunny afternoon. There are more than 100 wineries to explore or simply lie by the pool or get a massage. www.peppers.com.au

Yang: go for an eco-adventure

Rawnsley Park specialises in outback ecoadventures on a 6000ha sheep station in South
Australia's Flinders Ranges. Mobile phones
don't work out here so you're guaranteed not
to be disturbed. Indulge in four-wheel drive
safaris and take in the intense red hues of the
landscape or relax at night in your luxe
eco-villa which literally has retractable
ceilings so you can star gaze from your
newlywed bed at night. Your hosts, Tony and
Julieanne are passionate about their familyowned station and will happily give you the
grand tour. Be inspired by the scenery and
leave your big city boots at the door.

www.rawnsleypark.com.au





WILD NEW ZEALAND

Spectacular wilderness plus some serious après-ski action on NZ's South Island

Yin: breathtaking comfort:

Exhale as you enter Kaimata Retreat on the Otago Peninsula outside of Dunedin. Perched on a cliff overlooking the tranquil waters of Papanui Inlet, Kaimata offers a view of the lush green hills and silver water, a wrap around deck and mammoth kitchen stocked with everything from Bluff oysters to Marlborough wines. Stroll to see the Yellow Eyed Penguin colony or just canoodle on the plush couch. See www.kaimatanz.com. Freedom Air flies from Australia direct to Dunedin, NZ, from Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. www.freedomair.com

Yang: ski the Treble Cone

Treble Cone is a skier's favourite with over 500ha of powder snow and wide, groomed runs. The views from the chairlift across Lake Wanaka and the Aspiring Mountain Ranges are breathtaking. At the day's end, sip a Central Otago wine by the fire at Lime Tree Lodge just outside of Wanaka township. Friendly hosts know how to roast a lamb, mix a gimlet and pour you both a nightcap or 10.

See www.limetreelodge.co.nz

Air New Zealand flies direct from Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne to Queenstown, NZ. www.airnewzealand.com.au