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The winemakers' muse

CREATIVE NATION
Artists with global reach

QANTAS

THE AUSTRALIAN WAY

SEPTEMBER 2010

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Taking in water at Europe's most eccentric cooking challenge

FASHION REPORT

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BORNEO TO THE FRENCH ALPS & AUSTRALIAN WINE TRAILS

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Coworth Park

↑ COWORTH PARK

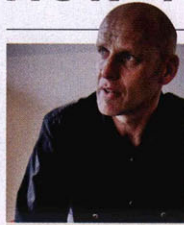
London Road, Ascot, Berkshire, England.
+ 44 (1344) 876 600. www.coworthpark.com

A Georgian manor house set in 97ha of picturesque Berkshire parkland has been transformed into a five-star eco-spa retreat. Coworth Park, part of the Dorchester Collection, offers 70 guestrooms and suites, each with its own quintessentially British character – understated and elegant. Coworth boasts an on-site equestrian centre with polo fields and stables for more than 30 horses; as well as the UK's first carbon-neutral spa. Its bars and restaurants serve modern fare under the expert eye of celebrated chef John Campbell. From £235 (\$410).



Quay West Resort & Spa Noosa

ASK THE CONCIERGE



Alan Blundell

Ohtel, Wellington

✦ When friends are in town I take them for a drink at...

Hawthorne Lounge or Motel in Tory Street – both venues have an intimate atmosphere and great staff.

✦ The restaurant that best shows off Wellington is...

Capitol on the corner of Kent Terrace and Majoribanks Street. It's always busy and has a good menu and wine list – and there is usually plenty happening outside the Capitol's large windows as Wellingtonians hit the town.

✦ For designer fashion I steer guests towards...

Mandatory on Cuba Mall for men; and women will love the variety that Scotties on Blair Street has to offer.

✦ For the perfect gift or memento I'd shop at...

Iwi Art on Tory Street: beautiful Maori jewellery, textiles and contemporary art works.

✦ Couples wanting a romantic dinner for two should consider...

The White House Restaurant on Oriental Parade.

✦ If I wanted to see some great art I'd go to...

Kura Gallery on

Allen Street – it has a huge selection to choose from.

✦ **The best markets can be found at...** Chaffers City Market in the atrium – Sunday mornings from 8.30am.

✦ **For vintage finds head to...** Zinc Plus on Tinakori Road.

✦ **If it's raining...** Te Papa Museum is a great environment to lose yourself in for several hours – if you can bear to drag yourself out of your Ohtel room and walk across Waitangi Park.

✦ **Wellington's best-kept secret is...** The view from Tinakori Hill's Stellan lookout – views across the city toward Oriental Parade and over Mount Victoria to Cook Strait. There are lots of great hilltop walks all around the city, with each summit offering a unique perspective of Wellington's rugged geography.

✦ **If I were a visitor with a free day I would...** Take a ride on the Eastbourne ferry across the harbour for morning tea at the Days Bay kiosk. Return in the afternoon for a Zest walking food tour of some of Te Aro's best.

← QUAY WEST RESORT & SPA NOOSA

94 Noosa Drive, Noosa Heads, Queensland.
(07) 5341 6300. www.mirvachotels.com

Overlooking a national park and 15 minutes' walk from Hastings Street, Quay West offers 80 one-, two- and three-bedroom self-contained apartments. Room sizes are generous, kitchens have the latest European appliances and there is ample patio space for entertaining. The 80-minute massage at Mii Spa 2 – followed by a strawberry sorbet digestif – is a must. Restaurant Aroona does a wicked slow-cooked pork belly with seared scallops. From \$239.