

Condé Nast Traveller

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MALDIVES

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on her favourite beach

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AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

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HELENA BAY LODGE

New Zealand

Located 200km north of Auckland, the seaside retreat bills itself as the ultimate couples' destination. This five-villa property with a stunning pool (pictured) allows children below 14 only when you hire it in its entirety. So check in for some 'we time' and go diving, fishing, trekking and return for a pampering massage. Later, ask Michelin-hatted Italian chef Ernesto Iaccarino to cook you a delicious meal using ingredients from the farm on the property. Enjoy it sitting in your private balcony, watching whales and dolphins swim by. **Good to know:** Book a helicopter flight to nearby vineyards and pick up a bottle or two. Your chef back at the hotel will

be happy to cook you a meal that goes well with whatever red, white, rosé or bubbly you bring back. (www.helenabay.com)

QT MELBOURNE Australia

A lifelike peacock sitting on a pedestal, a 20ft copper door and a lobby peppered with digital art installations—this brand-new QT takes its reputation of being design-driven very seriously, albeit in a cheeky way. The décor in the rooms features a mix of materials, such as glass, steel and iron (artworks included), and the industrial chic effect is softened with the use of brightly coloured fabrics. But the highlight is the QT Gel Bed, which guarantees the best sleep you'll ever get. **Good to know:** The in-house TV channel streams movies that have just been released. (www.qthotelsandresorts.com)