

### Bernardus Lodge CARMEL VALLEY, CALIF.



#### WHAT YOU'LL FIND JUST OUT-

**SIDE:** Twenty-six acres of vineyards and lavender mingle with Italian cypress, Russian sage, California oak and olive trees, with the Santa Lucia Mountains as a backdrop.



**HOT PLATE:** In tandem with a redesign, the on-site restaurant Marinus unveiled a new menu last month—and while you can't go wrong with any of chef Cal Stamenov's seasonal dishes, his alderwood-smoked Sonoma duck with onion soubise, foie gras, fennel and sauce Périgord is extravagantly good.



**SIGNATURE DRINK:** The obvious choice is one of the Bernardus Winery's award-winning vintages, but adventurous types might try the Landscape, made with pinot noir grape puree, rosemary-and-lavender-infused vodka, sparkling wine and lemon juice and served in a martini glass. Hic.



**BEST PLACE TO HANG OUT:** You could do a lot worse than kicking back in one of the Adirondack chairs by the outdoor fireplace, a crisp sauvignon blanc in hand, waiting to school your fellow guests at croquet on the impeccably groomed lawn.



### SYDNEY SHANGRI-LA HOTEL



**CLAIM TO FAME:** Said to be the most expensive hotel ever built in Sydney, the Shangri-La is a destination of choice for international royalty, including Denmark's Princess Mary, Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah and Hollywood's King George Clooney I.



**ROOM WITH A VIEW:** All 563 rooms feature stunning vistas, but only the Royal Suite lets you tickle the ivories of your own grand piano while gazing out soaring windows, beyond which the Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge provide compositional inspiration.



**HOT PLATE:** At the 36th-floor restaurant, Altitude, go local and order the poached hapuka, a firm and flavorful white fish found along Australia's southern coast. Partnered with bright pea-quinoa "risotto," this dish is as fresh as a Pacific breeze.



**SIGNATURE DRINK:** The Chairman Mao—scotch, chartreuse, maraschino liqueur and sweet vermouth—offers a bracing update on the Rob Roy.