

R H A P S O D Y


May 2017

Salma Hayek

How to be a
Hollywood
power player

THE GETAWAY PLAN Hamptons-style escapes around the world
RISE UP Soaring over Sedona in a hot-air balloon
PLUS Mint juleps, tennis titans in training, and 7 new floral fragrances

UNITED 

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 

The Hamptons
of Auckland
Waiheke Island

Waiheke Island is so close to the Auckland metro area—just a 35-minute ferry ride across the Hauraki Gulf from downtown—that you can still see the city skyline from certain vantage points. But the 35-square-mile island is far from a mere suburb, as it feels cobbled together from the best parts of other destinations: a hillside mosaic of olive groves and vineyards straight out of Tuscany, sheep-filled valleys that call to mind the Scottish Highlands, and hidden beach coves reminiscent of the Greek isles. Waiheke was once an off-the-grid haven for artists and Greenpeace activists, but all that changed with the 1986 introduction of regular ferry service. The effect? Many Auckland tastemakers discovered a lush natural playground had been hiding in plain sight

● **SLEEP:** Inspired by traditional baches, **The Boatshed**—a laid-back hillside tumble of clapboard cottages and suites that sleeps just 14—boasts subtle nautical theming (model yachts, brass propellers) and a garden that supplies the nightly no-menu dinner. boatshed.co.nz

● **EAT:** Bivalves—especially the island-raised Te Matuku variety—are a house specialty at **The Oyster Inn**, a crisp-white three-room guesthouse and restaurant just off Oneroa Beach that serves fresh seafood caught by local fisherman Terry Gallon, plus wines and olive oils made right here on the island. theoysterinn.co.nz

● **BUY:** If you're looking to outfit your own Kiwi beach retreat, don't miss **Veranda**, a homewares store in Oneroa Village stocked with casually chic goods like natural hemp rugs by Australia's Armadillo & Co., landscape-printed linen pillows by France's Geneviève Lévy, and Waiheke-made Thea Ceramics, including a cup designed specifically for flat whites. verandawaiheke.co.nz

in their own backyards. Soon, contemporary sculptures began dotting the coastal bush environment, and more than 30 wineries cropped up, specializing in Bordeaux-style blends and Syrahs. And while it's true that baches (traditional Kiwi beach cottages) have begun to give way to mansions, the island still feels delightfully trapped in time. That means barely any traffic lights, no fast food restaurants, and residents who trap their own rainwater. The locals wouldn't have it any other way.



From top: Bluff oysters at the Oyster Inn; one of Waiheke Island's many hidden beaches

