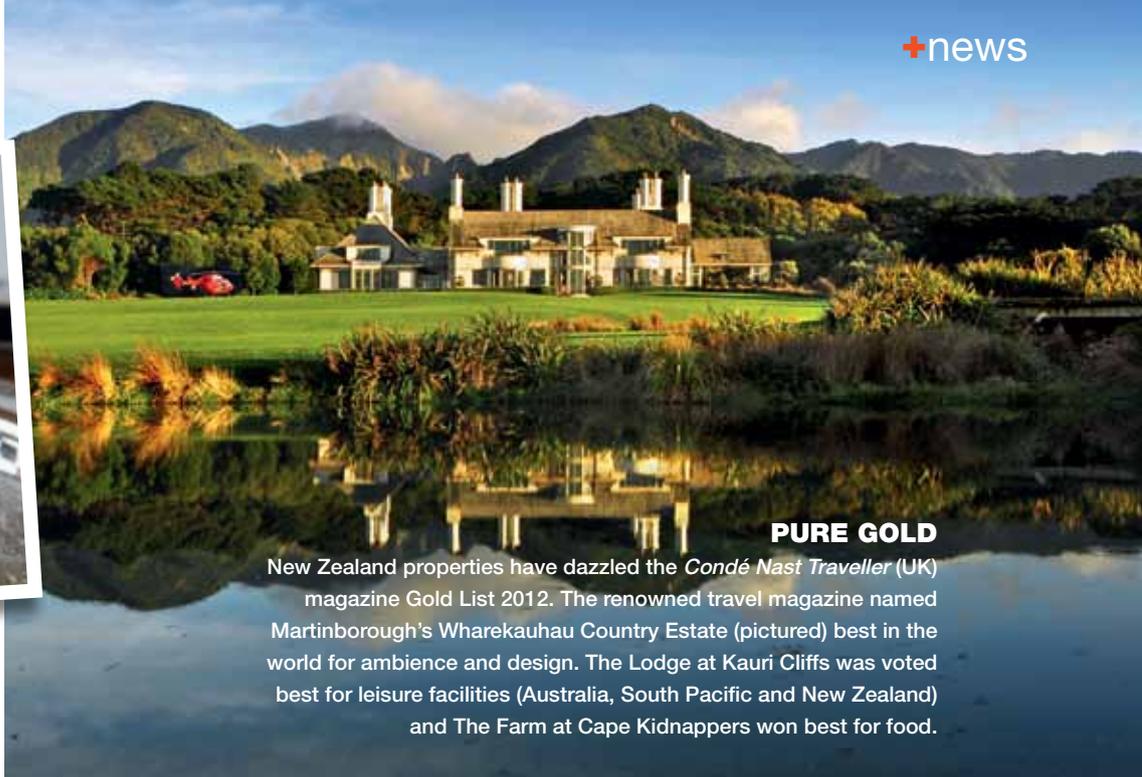




### IN GOOD COMPANY

Steve Hanrahan, Chief Concierge at The Rees Hotel in Queenstown, has been presented with Les Clefs d'Or (the golden keys), the highest honour from the Prestigious Hotel Concierge Society Les Clefs d'Or New Zealand. There are 27 concierges in New Zealand who wear the Clefs d'Or and 3,500 members globally. In other Queenstown hotel news, Qualmark has awarded Hilton Queenstown 5 stars and Kawarau Hotel, managed by Hilton, 4-star plus. Hilton Queenstown scored 100 percent for public areas (restaurant and bar facilities, décor, service) and bedrooms (décor and lighting). [therees.co.nz](http://therees.co.nz), [hilton.com](http://hilton.com)



### PURE GOLD

New Zealand properties have dazzled the *Condé Nast Traveller* (UK) magazine Gold List 2012. The renowned travel magazine named Martinborough's Wharekauhau Country Estate (pictured) best in the world for ambience and design. The Lodge at Kauri Cliffs was voted best for leisure facilities (Australia, South Pacific and New Zealand) and The Farm at Cape Kidnappers won best for food.

### THE BIG REVEAL

The Copthorne Hotel & Resort Solway Park in Masterton is celebrating another stage completed in their ongoing refurbishment project. The indoor swimming pool, fitness centre, squash court, golf driving range and Cafe Solway have all had extreme makeovers in time for summer pleasure-seeking. [millenniumhotels.com](http://millenniumhotels.com)



### TAKING THE WATERS

The Waters is a new B&B retreat metres from Kina beach, Nelson. Three luxury suites have all mod cons – from MP3 to flat-screen TV – and decks that extend over the water. A shared barbecue area has an outdoor fireplace and spa, and there are also two beautiful studio units. The Waters is at Erinaceus Estate, a 10-hectare working olive grove, orchard and vineyard. [thewaters.co.nz](http://thewaters.co.nz)

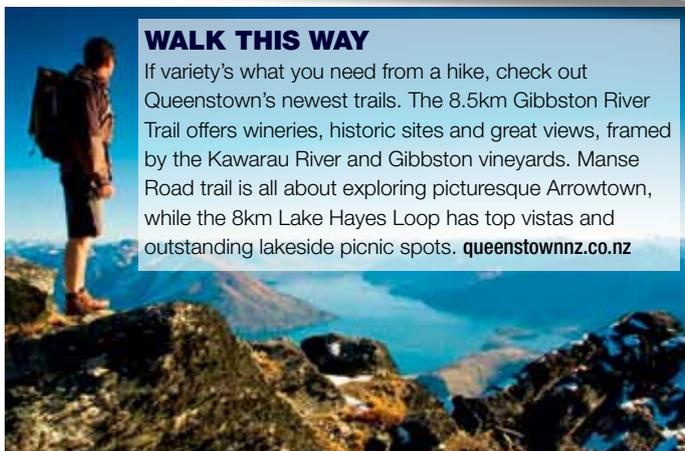
### STEP UP TO THE CHALLENGE

It is now possible to walk the length of the country. Te Araroa – the Long Pathway, a 3,000km trail that stretches from Bluff in the south to Cape Reinga in the North, was opened in December, took decades to complete and is one of the longest walking trails on the planet. Chief champion of the cause, Geoff Chapple, has written the ultimate guide to the trail. *A Walking Guide to New Zealand's Long Trail: Te Araroa* (Random House, \$49.99) covers 133 walks, from day trips to major hikes, and includes 3D maps. [teararoa.org.nz](http://teararoa.org.nz)



### WALK THIS WAY

If variety's what you need from a hike, check out Queenstown's newest trails. The 8.5km Gibbston River Trail offers wineries, historic sites and great views, framed by the Kawarau River and Gibbston vineyards. Manse Road trail is all about exploring picturesque Arrowtown, while the 8km Lake Hayes Loop has top vistas and outstanding lakeside picnic spots. [queenstownnz.co.nz](http://queenstownnz.co.nz)



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