

Matchmaker: New Zealand

Four special properties in extraordinary locations offer one-of-a-kind experiences, but it's crucial to know which is right for you.



Annandale, South Island **Best for: High-end glamping**

Imagine four villas, ranging from a historic homestead to an ultramodern showstopper, set on a 4,000-acre working farm on one of New Zealand's most picturesque bays, and you have a sense of how amazingly special Annandale is.

Best for: Couples, groups of friends and families who want bragging rights to having stayed in one of New Zealand's most unusual villa collections; as well as travelers who are looking for a remote getaway.

Room to Book: Seascape, a couples-only haven with a spectacular layout designed by award-winning Auckland architect Andrew Patterson.

Top Activities: Clay pigeon shooting, farm tours, hiking, kayaking.

Keep in Mind: Most villas are a 45-minute drive from the main lodge. The villas are stocked with pre-cooked food, but meals require some prep work unless you hire a private chef.

Read Indagare's hotel review.



Hapuku, South Island **Best for: Treetop Glamour**

Located 10 minutes by car north of the seaside town of Kaikoura (epicenter of the Kaikoura District), in a serene spot flanked by a deer farm and olive groves, Hapuku is known for its übercool tree houses. The food is a delight, as is manager Chris Sturgeon, who is passionate about the area and can recommend activities.

Best for: Families and couples interested in whale watching and other ocean wildlife experiences for which the Kaikoura region is most renowned.

Room to Book: The Swiss Family Robinson-style tree houses in the 30-foot-high canopy.

Top Activities: Sea kayaking, fishing, swimming with dolphins, visiting seal colonies.

Keep in Mind: Some seasons are better than others for marine mammal viewing. Find out if whale, orca and dolphin sightings have been good before committing to a sea cruise.

Read Indagare's hotel review.