

Something about Islas Secas in Panama changed one man. See how on page 52.

# 15 of the world's Greatest Escapes

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JON WHITTLE



Total Escape

## Into the Hills



### OTAHUNA LODGE / NEW ZEALAND / \$780+

▲ As I leave Otahuna Lodge, the resort's co-owner, Hall Cannon, has a final word. "Generations are important in this part of South Island," I'm not sure what he means. I'm just heading out for a mini-stay on a New Zealand farm. Two hours later I arrive at High Point Station (some visitors travel here by helicopter). I look for men in gumboots and barns with peeling paint. But this homestead is not in Kansas.

◀ Last night I slept in classic Kiwi luxury at Otahuna (left). Now I'm looking for a bush hut on a 10,000-acre expanse in the Southern Alps. There are maybe 20 people within 20 miles, most of them members of the Guild family that owns High Point. Simon Guild leads me over the rolling hills to the hut. A spread that includes Akaroa salmon salad and homemade focaccia is waiting. When I ask about authenticity, Simon sips a glass of pinot gris. "I'm a seventh-generation Canterburyan. How do you spell inauthentic?" — AMANDA JONES