

COUNTER CULTURE

Three getaways

to make you feel like you got away

► ECO-LUXE

Nestled in vineyard territory, stay at these eco-savvy, smartly-designed villas, and you'll enjoy not only a soak in the divine spa, a sun on the deck, but you can peruse the estate's plantings through the bedroom's floor-to-ceiling windows.

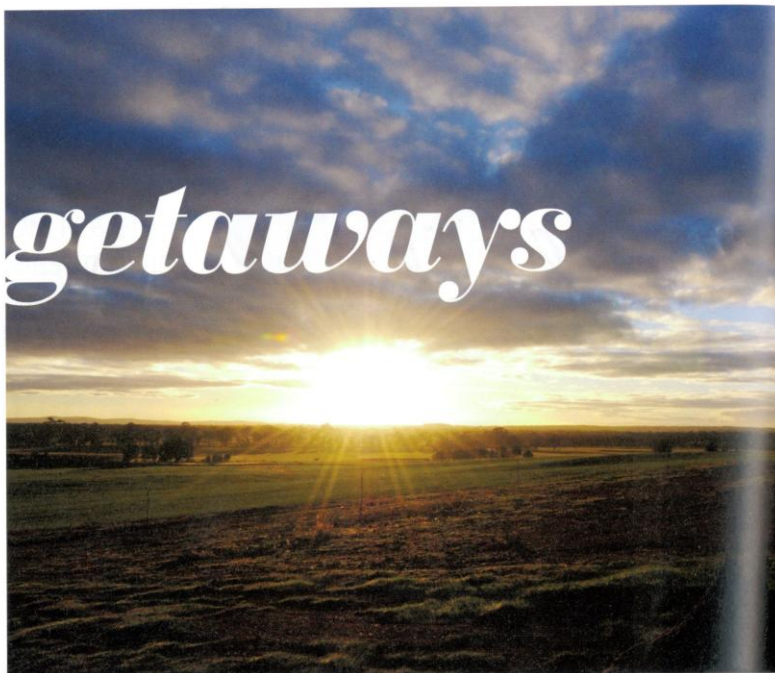
A short stroll away and you'll be at the cellar door... where you can sip anything from shiraz to sauvignon blanc. And when you feel like venturing further, visit the charming and historic streets of the Avoca township... and dine at the newly refurbished Avoca Hotel.

Mount Avoca Winery,
Moates Lane, Avoca, VIC
Tel: 03 5465 3282 www.eco-luxe.com.au

► BOROKA DOWNS

Supreme sophistication with pristine views and absolute privacy (except for the eyes of a curious kangaroo or two) is what Boroka Downs is all about. Situated on a former sheep property, this revegetated, wildlife-friendly address is the perfect place to slow down and just enjoy the natural environment while you lap up the luxury. Salubrious spa bath, fab fireplace and stylish simplicity all create a big, warm welcome. With the villas mostly designed for couples – it's an ideal spot to explore and take some slow 'twosome' time out. The Halls Gap Zoo is only a cooee away, with exotic animals and a beautiful habitat for the quirky meerkat. Local wineries, and the indulgence of Aveda beauty treatments are also not far away.

51 Birdswing Road, Halls Gap, VIC
Tel: 03 5356 6243
www.borokadowns.com.au





▼ MOUNT STURGEON COTTAGES

There's no phone, no television, and your mobile won't find any range at all. However the upside is, (if that wasn't already an upside) there are stunning views to soak up, and all the comfort you'll need to sink into a sofa with a good book... for a very slow stay. Visit these beautiful little refurbished cottages, used as accommodation for the property's shearers and cooks back in 1840... and you'll be sure to deposit it in your bank of lifelong memories.

The self-contained facilities make you feel at home, but if you're feeling ultra laidback, let the barbie have a rest and dine out at the nearby Royal Mail Hotel, to experience its acclaimed ambience and outstanding cuisine. (And you'll be relieved to know the hotel has access to all telecommunications, if your addiction symptoms persist.)

Royal Mail Hotel
98 Parker Street (Glenelg Hwy),
Dunkeld, VIC
Tel: 03 5577 2241
www.royalmail.com.au

