

ENGLAND, where Foxtons' founder Jon Hunt has pieced together 4,500 acres in Suffolk to make up a new-age country estate, **Wilderness Reserve** (www.wildernessreserve.com). Hunt, a keen environmentalist, has ripped out fencing, planted over 800,000 trees, returned arable to parkland, removed steel barns and pylons and put in lakes and meadows. He has also done up a number of houses on the estate that are available to rent, from Sibton Park (sleeping 24 from £4,000 per night) to the electricity-free Hex (from £200 per night).

→ In Patagonia, **ARGENTINA**, the Lagos Marmol family have slightly more land to play with: 100,000 acres on the Chilean border, where they've opened up their family ranch, **Caballadas** (www.caballadas.com; all inclusive, five-night stay from \$3,250 per person; the family house sleeps up to 20 in 10 rooms, with a minimum of four per booking). The alternative, which is a 90-minute drive from Buenos Aires, is **La Bamba de Areco** (www.labambadeareco.com; full-board from £361) – one of the oldest estancias in Argentina, now an 11-room hotel, which has undergone an elegant, under-the-radar renovation.

→ Once **GSTAAD** could have claimed the same old-money pedigree – before the

Noughties' influx of Russian cash changed the Swiss ski resort's tenor. Redressing this reputation is **Le Grand Bellevue** (www.bellevue-gstaad.ch; half-board from SFr924, about £627), a 100-year-old, 57-room palace hotel that has been recast over the past 12 months with new interiors and a 2,500sq m Bamford Spa. The result is more cosy-contemporary (hot orange, bird-print wallpaper and blue velvets) than look-at-me flashy, with the convivial spirit of a Soho House or Lime Wood. ✦



Above: Isabel Lagos Marmol at her family's Caballadas ranch, Patagonia, Argentina



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