

Russell hotel named world's best coastal hideaway

By [Elizabeth Binning](#)

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A New Zealand retreat billed as "somewhere between seven stars and heaven" has been named the world's top luxury coastal hotel.

[Eagles Nest](#), which is set within a 30ha estate on the Tapeka tip of Russell in the Bay of Islands, scooped the title at the World Luxury Hotel Awards in Thailand.

The awards are considered the pinnacle of achievement for luxury hotels worldwide.

Owners Daniel and Sandra Biskind said the recognition reinforced the New Zealand luxury sector as being among the best in the world.

"We feel profoundly honoured by this global award – especially considering that Eagles Nest is a relatively young and uniquely different property.

"It confirms the passionate response of our discerning clientele to this new and unique product niche, combining luxurious self-contained villas on a private estate with complete services on tap."

Hollywood watchers might be interested to know Harrison Ford and Calista Flockhart spent time there early this year.

Demi Moore and Ashton Kutcher reportedly stayed last year, and the 75ha estate was the setting for part of season 13 of US reality TV show *The Bachelor*.

Ms Biskind travelled to Thailand to receive the award, describing it as "one of the most exciting nights in my career".

"It was truly a humbling experience. I felt so proud of everyone who has contributed and those who are working in the creation of our dream that is Eagles Nest," she said.

Prices for one of five luxury Eagles Nest villas range from \$2346 a night to \$20,439 a night during peak season.

For that, you'll receive a bottle of champagne, a fruit platter, a minibar, and a gourmet breakfast.

A high-speed internet connection is also thrown in.

You can also employ the services of a personal chef, personal trainer, massage therapist or chauffeur if you're willing to shell out a little extra.

World Luxury Hotel Awards executive manager Marinique Truter said it was one of the highest accolades a hotel could receive, and one that says "more about the property than any brochure, picture or personal



Eagles Nest is set within a 30ha estate, and its guests have included Demi Moore and Ashton Kutcher. Photo / Supplied

testimonial could express".

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