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TRAVEL + LEISURE

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MARCH 2008

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STYLE SPECIAL
Sydney's bold
new bar scene

The privacy and luxury of Emerald Valley Villa, Byron Bay, NSW.



VILLA LORD BYRON

If privacy is as important as luxury, **Emerald Valley Villa** in the Byron hinterland is bound to appeal to those looking for an exclusive retreat. Located in Goonengerry, 25 minutes from Byron's world-famous coastline, Emerald Valley is an exclusive Balinese-influenced villa with luxurious guestrooms, resort-style entertaining areas, a spectacular spring water pool, a separate Jacuzzi and 32 hectares of lush, landscaped grounds including your very own lake

and a waterfall. On the service front, a concierge is available to organise anything from exotic spa treatments to the more practical, such as secretarial services, and the villa is fully wired for audio-visual entertainment and high-speed broadband. This luxe villa sleeps eight in four bedrooms (each with ensuite marble bathroom) and costs from \$1000 per night. *Emerald Valley Villa, details and bookings, www.emeraldvalleyvilla.com.* – sw

ON SITE

Andrea Palladio is widely considered to be the most influential figure in western architecture. He built the churches of Il Redentore and San Giorgio Maggiore in Venice and created municipal buildings and private *palazzi* in the northern Italian city of Vicenza. This year marks 500 years since his birth and the city of Vicenza and the Veneto region have established a web site to help fans get their architectural fix: www.palladio2008.info.

FOOD

TRUE BRIT

Anyone who's spent time in England will appreciate the wry observations in this book by Nigel Slater, Britain's pre-eminent food writer – only Slater would equate a jelly baby with Sevruga caviar. *Eating for England* (Fourth Estate, \$29.99) is a mix of history and anecdote celebrating British institutions such as the digestive biscuit, PG Tips and Robertson's Golden Shred marmalade.

