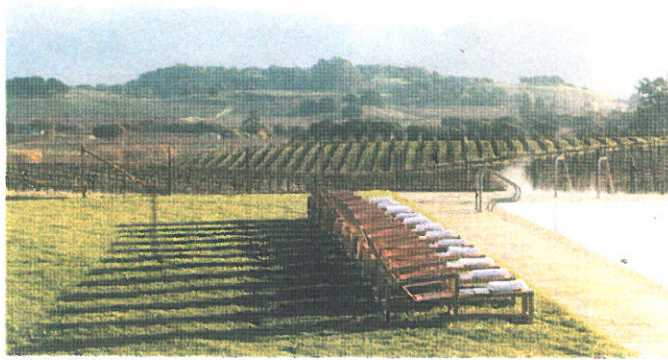


**10 INDEPENDENT TRAVELLER**

**FIVE BEST  
NORTH  
AMERICAN  
RETREATS**

**Sarah Barrell** finds places to  
escape stress and find nature



**The Carneros Inn California**

Hidden in a rural corner of California's Napa Valley, the Carneros Inn is where wannabe farmhands, albeit ones with neat manicures, will feel at home. The inn's 86 simple tin-roofed farm cottages are gathered around private courtyards with fountains made from feeding troughs. The landscape is rustic, dotted with cows and rows of vines but the inn doesn't lack modern comforts. A hilltop

infinity pool and spa offer treatments such as locally grown mustard-seed massage or the soothing goat-butter wrap. The rooms come with custom-made furniture, fluffy pillows and wood-burning fires.

*The Carneros Inn, 4048 Sonoma Highway, Napa, California (001 707 299 4900; [www.thecarnerosinn.com](http://www.thecarnerosinn.com)). Doubles start at \$455 (£250), room only.*