



Settle into the African rhythms of zoo

What a deal!
with MIKE BINGHAM

WERRIBEE Open Range Zoo's 10th season of summer evenings celebrating the Rhythm of Africa will be held every Saturday and Sunday from January 5 to March 9.

The zoo will be open from 9am to 9pm and there is no surcharge for staying on to attend the concerts.

Bands will perform in a large African-style hut and African-inspired food will be available.

Visitors will also be able to take safari tours at dusk. Details, www.zoo.org.au

Favourite stays

TWO Tasmanian tourism operators have won national awards in a competition organised by online travel company TakeABreak.com.au

The criteria included responses from tourists. The winners are Hire a Cottage from Denis, at Port Arthur, which won the budget accommodation category; and Kay Creek Cottage at Franklin (best self-contained accommodation).

Wetland farming

DELORAINIE has a salmon farm with a difference. The farm, 41 Degrees South Aquaculture, in Montana Rd, also features a ginseng plantation and natural and man-made wetlands.

It is open from 10am to 5pm (except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day).

You are invited to take a self-guided tour combining the fish farm, flora and fauna, and nature trails.

There is also a shop and cafe with the offer of free tasting of hot-smoked salmon products. More details, 6362 4130.

Spa with the most

THE Golden Door Health Retreat — Elysia, in the Hunter Valley, 90 minutes' drive from Sydney, has been named best Australian spa by *Luxury Travel* magazine.

It is the nation's largest and most luxurious spa, boasting 26 treatment rooms. More information, www.goldendoor.com.au

Shetland on top

TASMANIA isn't the only island winning attention from international tourists.

Shetland has been placed equal

third out of 100 islands around the globe in a survey of desirable islands by the *National Geographic Traveller* magazine.

Glenorchy reader Adaline Christie-Johnston has sent me a clipping of an article about this success in the *Shetland Times*.

The proud report included a sunny beach scene and noted that Shetland had finished ahead of Hawaii, the Bahamas and Bali.

Tuscany in a glass

TUSCAN wine and food can be yours with a three-day Great Wines of Tuscany package from Tempo Holidays (1300 558 987) between April 15 and October 30 next year.

The price is \$805 per person, twin-share, and includes two nights in a deluxe hotel, guided winery visits, a cooking class, two breakfasts and a dinner.



ON SAFARI: Visit Werribee Zoo, near Melbourne, over summer and enjoy an evening of African food and music along with the animals.