

Indulgence: Kangaroo Island

Right: Remarkable Rocks in Flinders Chase National Park.

Bottom: Both the restaurant and the separate cliff-top spa pavilion at Southern Ocean Lodge will be orientated to the spectacular views.



Baillie says. “Up until now there’s not been a place to do it in style.”

Fine dining, premium wines and Mercedes transfers from Kingscote Airport, or a closer private landing strip, will be part of the experience for up to 50 guests in 21 rooms.

The Lodge’s isolation means it has to be self-sufficient in water supply and treatment, as well as power generation. The emphasis will be on using local growers and fishermen for supplies, and Kangaroo Island is increasingly providing the goods with top-class marron, cheeses, olive oils and chicken.

Baillie expects some 70 per cent of visitors will come from

overseas (“premium grey nomads” and some honeymooners). “Luxury is what we are after, a more contemporary rendition of New Zealand’s Huka Lodge [see story page 26] or those amazing places on Big Sur,” he says. Rather than “flop and drop” tropical resorts like the Amman chain, he’s proposing a more active stay with snorkelling and surfing nearby and stiff cliff top walks to Remarkable Rocks and Admirals Arch at the island’s south-west tip. “We’re creating a deluxe platform to immerse yourself in a unique natural experience. Untouched places are a rare asset in this world.” From the daybeds in each suite “incredible sunsets are guaranteed”. Paradise regained.