



# THE BRIT LIST

## 2005

### NEW COUNTRY PAD

Hotel Endsleigh (01822 870248; doubles from £200, B&B), a rambling, Grade I-listed, 19th-century mansion outside Tavistock, will be the British hotel launch of the year when it opens in August. Why? Because it is the Devonian country cousin of Cornwall's Hotel Tresanton. Tresanton is the UK's trendiest bolt hole, universally regarded as having redefined the English country-house weekend, destroying its dinner-jacketed, deaf-colonel image in favour of something much more contemporary and child-friendly. But while Tresanton is sleekly seasidey, Endsleigh, the former country seat of the sixth Duke of Bedford, is a much grander affair. Owner Olga Polizzi promises interiors that will weave Regency pastiche and modern design into the house's quirky features, which include a veranda made from sheep's knuckles (yes, sheep's knuckles).

And it's not just the house that's grand: its 108 acres of sprawling gardens, in the Tamar valley just beneath Dartmoor, are also Grade I-listed, with glorious grass terraces, romantic shell houses and an internationally renowned arboretum. Pack your Hunter wellies along with your Jimmy Choos.