

# 2006 – Travel Editorial and Pictorial Round-up

2006 was certainly one for adventure, exploration and even some luxury. I'm pleased to add numerous unusual and emerging destinations to my catalogue plus revisits to some old favourites.



MELANESIA

## The Melanesian Spell is Cast

Like a moth to a flame, Rod is drawn back to the sights and delights of PNG and Melanesia aboard Oceanic Discoverer. WWII wrecks, volcanoes, black magic, spear-wielding "attackers" and the sheer warmth of the people come together to form an unforgettable and enriching experience on Australia's doorstep.



AUSTRALIA

## Relax and Recharge - a Hybrid Getaway

Saddle up the state-of-the-art Lexus RX400h hybrid AWD and head to sunny South East Queensland to investigate two premium Peppers retreats. Experience award winning hospitality, 5 Star dining and fabulous scenery in air-conditioned, leather-clad comfort. Sound indulgence? You bet.



CHINA

## Revered and Feared: Mao's Legacy

As bustling, burgeoning Beijing ramps up for the 2008 Olympics, Rod pokes around behind the spin and glamour for a look at the old Communist legacy that delivered China into the 21st Century. The reverence for Mao Zedong and the personality cult he created lingers on for the curious and nostalgic visitor in many ways.



NEW ZEALAND

## The Brand of the Long White Cloud

New Zealand is establishing itself as a world-leading premium destination. An easy and rewarding drive, Rod laps the North Island in pursuit of 'aromatic' boiling mud, panoramic vistas, legendary lodges and flawless rack of lamb. In just one hectic week, he seeks to uncover the secret behind NZ's growing reputation.



AUSTRALIA

## Lust for Dust An Outback Gem

Rummage through the rocks and pebbles around Rubyvale and you might just turn up a small fortune. Here in outback Queensland, the streets are paved, not with gold, but with emeralds, rubies and sapphires. Share a yarn with the drifters and fossickers who came for a weekend and stayed for life.



HONG KONG - MACAU

## I Think I'm Turning Macanese

Hong Kong and Macau may be separated by just a narrow waterway, but their histories and fate are intertwined. Hong Kong forges ahead as an economic powerhouse and dynamic stopover, while Macau relishes its curious European heritage and passion for excitement and the high life.



AUSTRALIA

## A Tale of the Reel Wild West

Better known for shipwrecks, missing warships, dolphins and whale sharks, Western Australia's coastline has some of this country's oldest history - and best fishing! Rod witnesses a turtle hatching, inspects a nuclear test site and dives with sharks and turtles. Come aboard True North for this once-a-year expedition.

### Planned for 2007:

- More small ship expeditions to New Zealand, Cape York, Kimberley and the Russian Far East

### Also available:

- MV Discovery in Hervey Bay and Fraser Island
- Coo-Wee Coorong. 4WDing, camping and fishing on SA's South Coast.
- "Lava Quest" Hawaii's Big Island
- "Up The Wild Stikine" in the real Alaska
- Driving the hills and dales of scenic Wales
- "Bering Up" through the strait into the Arctic

### Plus these destinations:

- NSW Coastal Resorts • Wales (UK) • Bali
- Ecuador • Alaska • India • Antarctica
- Australian Outback • Cambodia • Hawaii
- Korea (North and South) • Java • New Caledonia • New Zealand • Argentina • Chile • PNG • Solomon Islands • Vanuatu
- China • Hong Kong • Macau