

EQUIFAX**Get your 3-in-1 Credit Report
from Equifax for ONLY \$29.95!****▶ Check Now**[Back to online version](#)**TheObserver** Escape : Print version

20 rural retreats in Portugal

Spain has its haciendas, Portugal its quintas e country estates with bags of character. Some are hidden in the hills, some on the coast, some cheap, others very chic, but glorious scenery and a slower pace of life come as standard. In this preview from the new edition of his book, Alastair Sawday picks his favourites

The Observer Sunday March 25 2007

More on...**Travel**Portugal
Hotels**The Guardian**

Observer Escape section

Quinta do Rio Touro Estremadura

The Reino family have planted more than 5,000 trees on their farm in the Sintra Cascais Natural Park. Lush organic gardens heave with fruit peaches, bananas, strawberries and, above all, limes. Feel free to pick your own. Scented jasmine tumbles over the entrance and other fragrant bushes tempt you into the gardens day and night. Choose between the rooms in the main house with their balconies and sea views, or go for a more private room in the little house at the foot of the garden. The locally sourced and organic breakfasts are outstanding: homelaid eggs, local pastries, fresh cheeses, their own honey, ginza jam and pumpkin chutney.

• Sintra Cabo da Roca, Estremadura (00 351 219 292862)- Doubles
€100 €200.