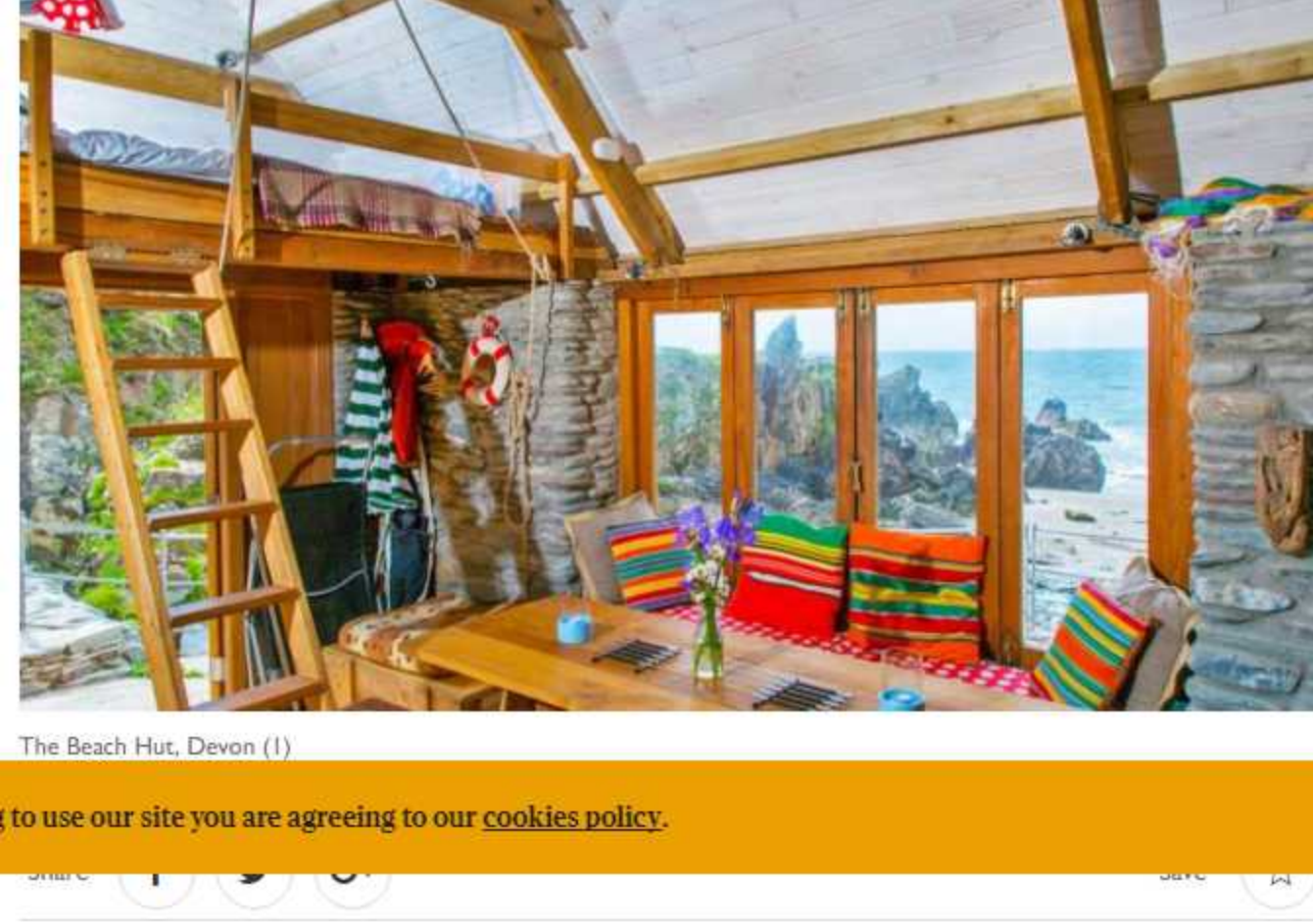
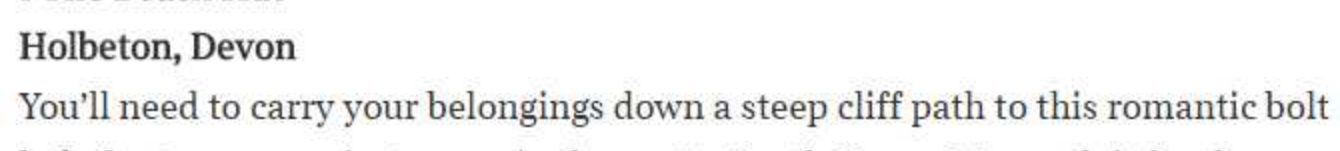


12 great houses



The Beach Hut, Devon (1)

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1 The Beach Hut

Holbeton, Devon

You'll need to carry your belongings down a steep cliff path to this romantic bolt hole for two on a private cove in the pretty South Hams. It's worth it for the splendid isolation. Wallow in the warm waters of your wood-fired hot tub, have a barbecue and then fall asleep to the sound of the waves crashing against the rocks. A double bed is on a mezzanine level above the well-equipped, open-plan kitchen, which has running water but no electricity (there are solar-powered lights and a camping cool box), and a wood-burner keeps you cosy. Outside is a compost toilet and a shower with hot water. A further seven cottages are dotted across the estate, which is an organic dairy farm.

Details Two nights for two is from £650 (01752 830020, [carswellcottages.com](#))

2 Dune House

Greatstone, Kent



Dune House, Kent

At high tide the sea is only a few steps through the garden from this immaculate house set in sand dunes. There's a lovely open-plan kitchen and dining area with wood floors and bifold doors opening on to a deck, sheltered by the dunes.

Upstairs are four neutrally decorated bedrooms, one en suite double, two further doubles and a single plus a family bathroom; a shower room is downstairs.

Watch kite surfers ride the waves or take the Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway, which weaves along the coast.

Details A week for six is from £2,100 ([homeaway.co.uk](#), ref 1068870)

3 Carreg Wen

Solva, Pembrokeshire



Carreg Wen, Pembrokeshire

Go crabbing or rock-pooling on the beach at the pretty seaside village of Solva near this handsome three-bedroom cottage, once an 18th-century malt house.

Stylishly furnished with a mix of antique and modern pieces, the house has underfloor heating beneath Welsh slate in the open-plan living area with beamed ceilings and a wood-burner. There's a lovely sun room, garden and terrace.

Details A week for six is from £948 (01348 837871, [qualitycottages.co.uk](#))

4 Lawn Thickenener

and rejuvenates your grass.



FIND OUT MORE



4 Beach View

Southbourne, Dorset

A complimentary beach hut is on offer during summer stays at this four-bedroom house overlooking a seven-mile stretch of golden sands between Bournemouth and Hengistbury Head. The pièce de résistance is a spacious conservatory used as a dining room and extra lounge overlooking the garden.

The en suite master bedroom has a seaview balcony and there are three other twins/doubles, one of which is en suite. If you tire of the beach, there's free use

nearby luxury, child-friendly hotel.

Details A week for eight is from £913 (01386 897262, [ruralretreats.co.uk](#))

5 Rockpool Cottage

Staithes, North Yorkshire

This pretty fisherman's cottage overlooks Staithes harbour (ideal for crabbing) and has lovely bay views. Decorated in muted beiges, there are two double bedrooms and a contemporary bathroom with a separate shower. Whitby, with its ruined abbey and sandy beaches, is ten miles away. Walkers can strike out

along the Cleveland Way or to the North York Moors National Park.

Details A week for four costs from £410 (01228 406701, [yorkshire-cottages.info](#))

6 Kingfisher Cottage

Bamburgh, Northumberland

Bamburgh Castle forms the stunning backdrop to this stylish cottage close to miles of white-sand beaches. Decked out in a New England style with soft natural colours, it has a double-height sitting room with exposed beams and a wood-burner. A sleek kitchen leads to a patio garden. Upstairs is a spacious

double bedroom with a king-size bed and church-style window leading to a twin.

Hunt for tiny shore crabs at nearby Harkness Rocks, one of the top rock-pooling spots in Britain. Shop for provisions at the local deli, The Pantry

Details A week for two (plus two) costs from £410 (01573 226711, [crabtreeandcrabtree.com](#))

7 Cobb Cottage

Lyme Regis, Dorset

Perched above the famous Cobb harbour, this grade II listed Victorian cottage was originally two coastguard officers' homes. A south-facing glass-fronted veranda allows light to flood into the sitting room with its original hearth and wood-burner; it has a sleek kitchen with an 1840s floor. There are four bedrooms: two doubles, one twin and one double/twin — plus a family bathroom and shower room. Help yourself to buckets, fishing nets and crabbing limes and

head to the nearby sandy beach before returning for a sundowner on the elevated terrace.

Details A week for eight costs from £813 (01326 555555, [classic.co.uk](#))

8 Pevensey Beach House

Pevensey, East Sussex

There's an eclectic feel to the interior of this dog-friendly, newbuild house on a shingle beach. The open-plan living area has a sleek kitchen with concrete worktops complemented by reclaimed floorboards, a Chesterfield sofa and a

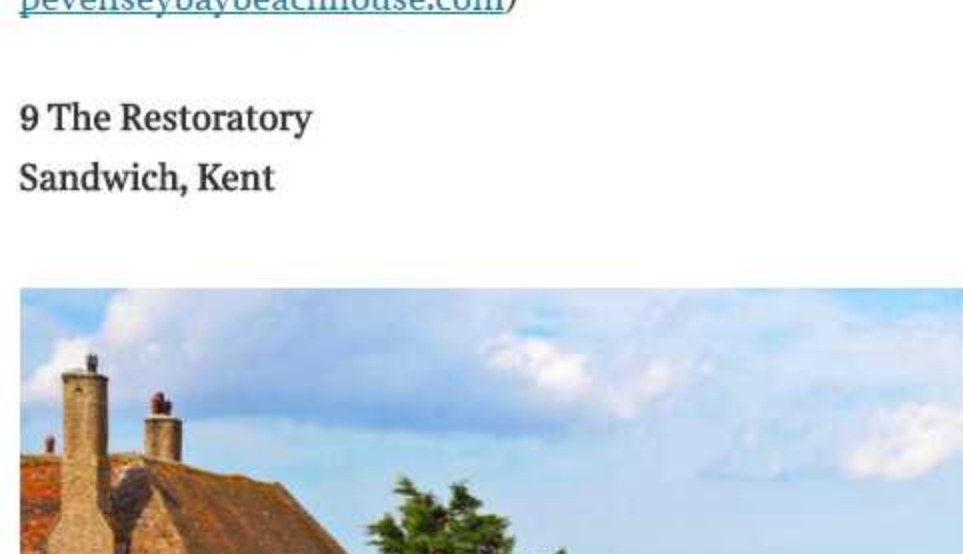
Sonos sound system and smart TV. Pull back the bifold doors to an expansive deck and a shower where you can hose down the dog (the garden is also fenced).

A double room with an antique French bed and children's room with bunk beds are on the ground floor; upstairs is the master bedroom and another double with bunk bed.

Details Three nights for ten cost from £570 (07870 167332, [pevenseybaybeachhouse.com](#))

9 The Restoratory

Sandwich, Kent



The Restoratory, with a view over Sandwich Bay, Kent

Go shrimping on the shingle beach next to this two-bedroom cottage on a gated estate. Help yourself to shrimping nets from the garden with its clapboard beach hut and deck chairs. Part of a Tudor-style house, the rooms are decked out in an

Arts and Crafts style with plush velvet sofas and an open fire in the sitting room. Upstairs is a double and twin, plus a family bathroom with

roll-top bath and shower. A playroom with ping-pong table and pool table is shared with a neighbouring property. Explore the nearby medieval towns of

Sandwich and Whitstable.

Details Three nights for four cost from £795, a week from £1,125 (01637 881183, [uniquehomestays.com](#))

10 Rockwater Cabin

Whitsand Bay, Cornwall



Rockwater Cabin, Cornwall

There's a light and airy feel to this 1930s cabin overlooking Whitsand Bay.

Furnished with vintage, modern and retro finds, the whitewashed interior has a compact galley kitchen with 1960s New World cooker and the original gas lights.

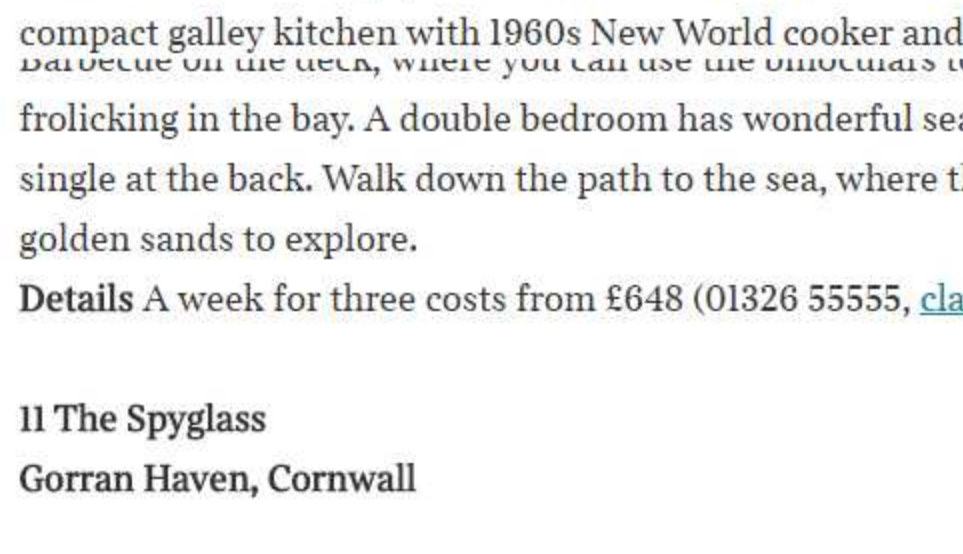
frolicking in the bay. A double bedroom has wonderful sea views and there's a

single at the back. Walk down the path to the sea, where there are four miles of golden sands to explore.

Details A week for three costs from £648 (01326 555555, [classic.co.uk](#))

11 The Spyglass

Gorran Haven, Cornwall



The Spyglass, Cornwall

This whitewashed cottage has its own steps leading to a sandy beach. There's a vintage maritime theme to the wood-panelled interior with black and white

pictures of fishermen, a giant bronze octopus, fish-print cushions plus a telescope to watch any comings and goings. When the sun is out, sit on the lawn

overlooking the sea and have a barbecue; when the sun sets, retreat to the cosy living room. Upstairs is a double, twin room and family bathroom. An excellent

fish and chip shop is just around the corner.

Details Three nights for four cost from £1,400, a week from £1,795 (01637 881183, [uniquehomestays.com](#))

12 Valetta

Thorpeness, Suffolk

This green-and-white striped cottage has bags of seaside charm with wraparound windows maximising the views. It's a sociable space with a long

refectory table and church-pew seating, a large corner sofa and day bed with lots of cushions. There are two double bedrooms and a bunk room with two sets of

beds, one suitable only for children. A private terrace has steps leading to the beach.

Details A week for eight costs from £835 ([coolstays.com](#))

BEST PLACES BY THE SEA

12 great houses



The Beach Hut, Devon (1)

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