

FEATURES

Next summer now

When a holiday sells out every year, you know it's brilliant. So get in ahead of the crowd and snap up a sought-after break for 2015

Jane Carter Published: 21 September 2014

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Kick back at Daios Cove, Crete

There are two types of holidays: the ones that everyone wants to go on, and the ones that are left when they've been nabbed. August 2015 may seem a long way off, but if you want to guarantee your place on the summer trips that sell out year after year, you need to stump up that deposit and act asap. We're talking about British beachside cottages, classic villas and family suites in Med resorts that couldn't be more perfect for kids, or better value. Some offer early-booking discounts, some don't need to. But just think how smug you'll feel when you tell the neighbours you've got next summer sorted with 94 days until Christmas.

Unless stated, prices are for a week in August 2015

Britain

The Old Shippon, Mineshop, Cornwall

We can argue all day over whether or not Crackington Haven is the prettiest beach in Cornwall, but we will agree that the cottages at Mineshop are a national treasure. Yes, they're a bit prefab-looking, and, no, that's not a designer kitchen, but the location — on the side of a secret valley back from the beach — is fabulous. To get to the beach, follow the Fellows stream a mile west.

Sleeps 6; £860; 01840 230103, mineshop.co.uk

The Boat House, Cawsand, Cornwall

This architect's conversion just east of Looe brings Malibu to mind, but without the neurotic neighbours. With a designer interior, including a suspended woodburner, the house tries to steal the wow factor from the views. And fails. Outside you'll find a deck, tumbling gardens and the rocky foreverness of Downderry Beach.

Sleeps 4; £2,100; 01637 881183, uniquehomestays.com

