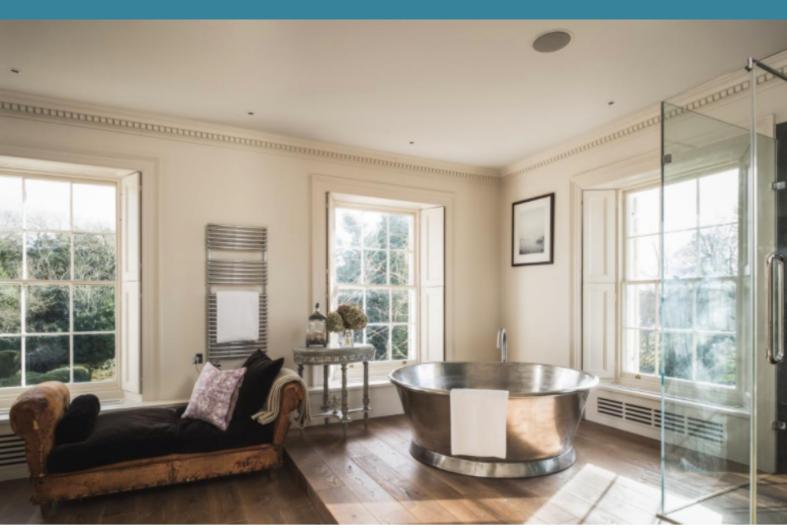
Plan now, go later: Great group stays in the UK

Book a castle in Northern Ireland or a converted Devon corn mill for your next big getaway



Ariabelle in West Sussex

8. Country house in West Sussex

The tree-lined drive, large lawns and 40 private acres of River Rother woodland are great — so too are the hot tub, tennis court and garden zip wire. But for all that, there's no debating this handsome 1850s mansion's headline act: a heated indoor pool in a bright room of arched windows. Country houses don't come much cooler than this. Terrific for families or friends, nine-bedroom Ariabelle in Midhurst also has a big dining room and is close to South Downs walks and Goodwood's racecourse.

Details Seven nights' self-catering for 14 from £15,000 (ariabelle.uniquehomestays.com)