



Whether you're looking for small places with soul or unique destinations to indulge in, we've handpicked the best holiday rental accommodation sites to book your perfect stay

This summer we can all finally be reunited with family and friends near and far to travel. After two years of daydreaming, the who, what, when and where's of planning a post-pandemic trip can, at first glance, appear daunting. Luckily, the internet is awash with booking sites for holiday rentals and homestays to save you the trouble of trawling, offering curated collections of homes and villas to suit any occasion for your next escape.

What are the benefits of a holiday rental versus a hotel? Staying in a rental doesn't mean you have to sacrifice high design, luxury amenities, or comfort only hotels used to afford. From lovingly restored period homes and low-fi boltholes to architectural feats and eco-lodge gems, the rental space is continually transforming to offer endless possibilities to enjoy, explore and relax.

With sites like [Unique Homestays](#) ideal for family reunions and throwing a party, or [Kip Hideaways](#), dedicated to those wanting quiet seclusion; there's something for everyone – without the poolside battle for sun loungers or noisy disruption from other guests – and the bonus of having your stay's owner on hand to help, on an interaction scale of your choice.

Many stays benefit from a no-contact, key collection from a lockbox approach, while others give guests the option to communicate with a host for tips and local recommendations. If you really want to immerse yourself further in your destination's local culture, there is even the opportunity to stay *with* your host in their home, letting you in on any insider secrets they may have for your desired area.

The best part? The charm of a rented homestay is that it is yours to make your own for the duration of your stay. Tailored to flexibility and accessibility, self-catering, privacy, larger get-togethers and pet-friendly too, holiday rentals now more than ever offer a more meaningful and enriching experience. Below, we've picked the best selection of holiday rentals to book now or bookmark for later.



## UNIQUE HOMESTAYS

If an impromptu staycation is on the cards this year, Unique Homestay's collection of luxury retreats in breathtaking locations is second to none. Founded by Cornish chef Sarah Stanley in 2001 when she returned to England after 12 years travelling the world, Unique Homestay's properties span architect-designed masterpieces, pared-back beach houses and boutique country homes, ranging from couple's retreats to large self-catering groups, and even dog-friendly escapes and wedding venues too.

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