



BRITAIN'S *best*

From a converted bus to a geodome glamping pod, here's our pick of cool and quirky places for a summer staycation

OFFBEAT ESCAPES

WORDS BY LAURAN ELSDEN

Found Tower SUFFOLK

Throughout the 1800s, 103 Martello towers sprung up around the English coast to protect our shores from invasion. While many were washed away by the waves, the Found Tower was transformed into a unique retreat. Behind its austere exterior, a spiral staircase leads to the sunny roof terrace for sky-meets-sea scenery across the Deben Peninsula. Set within the Suffolk Coast AONB, there's opportunity aplenty for beachcombing on Bawdsey beach or searching for avocets on the Alde-Ore Estuary. Or for those musically inclined, the circular snug has a grand piano for a singalong.

Sleeps six. From £3,250 per week; uniquehomestays.com.





Isla Windmill

ANGLESEY

Fancy a whimsical weekend away? Isla Windmill watches over the Menai Strait and Snowdonia beyond. This former flour mill has two bedrooms and a spectacular viewing gallery. A stone's skim away, there's a secluded cove for swimming or Beaumaris Castle for wet weather time travel. Ynys Seiriol, or Puffin Island, is off the eastern edge of Anglesey – its eponymous 'clowns of the sea' perform here until July, alongside guillemots, razorbills, shags and kittiwakes.

Sleeps four. From £1,850 for three nights;
uniquehomestays.com. ▶