

UNIQUE HOLIDAY HOMES TO RENT

From the villa featured in White Lotus and a floating Nordic cabin to one of the most exclusive Airbnb's in the world, these are the five coolest holiday rentals you need to check out

USONIA

Melrose, Scotland



Usonia, exterior

Credit David Curran, Unique Homestays / 1 of 9

Not to be mistaken for the property from Ex Machina, Usonia in Melrose, Scotland, is a feat of architectural baton-passing that's seen the house evolve in the hands of three design-led custodians into a zinc-and-larch clad cube with decadent Nordic-style interiors. And while a stay here won't promise a robot apocalypse, it will provide a meditative sauna, steaming hot rainfall showers and folkloric views of the Scottish firs from your bed. Sleeping up to six guests, this white and wood-filled sanctuary has three bedrooms, a yoga deck, kettlebell gym, kitchen, and open plan living space. Sitting in its own natural woodlot with St Cuthbert's Way on the doorstep means there are miles to meander by foot until stomachs are emptied of tablet and Dundee cake. In any case, a warm brew (or, better, whisky) on the tiered terrace curled into the webbed wishbone chairs will soon breathe life back into your bones.

From £2,195 per week; uniquehomestays.com

THE SUMMER FOLLY

Lincolnshire, United Kingdom



The Summer Forty, experior

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Dust off your bodice and throw on your petticoat because you're about to stay in a 17th-century building designed by the same architect who built Blenheim Castle. The Summy Folly is whimsical and wonderful in equal measure, complete with renaissance-style hand-painted murals, walled garden, cinema snug, pétanque lawn and plenty of cosy nooks to snuggle up in. Sleeping up to four people and just a two-and-a-half-hour drive from London means you can rally the troops for a much-needed escape to the countryside in Bourne, Lincolnshire. When you're not playing croquet on the lawn, sipping rosé on the terrace or devouring picnics in the 3,000 acres of private estate, you can explore the glut of bucolic scenery beyond the grounds, including the Rutland Water Nature Reserve for a spot of osprey watching.

From £1,995 per week; uniquehomestays.com