

HOUSE & GARDEN®

DECEMBER
2020
£4.95

*Home for
Christmas*

HANDSOME HOUSES IN OXFORDSHIRE,
RUTLAND, DEVON AND SUFFOLK

*Why SOPHIE DAHL
loves Christmas*


DECK THE HALLS
Festive inspiration

*Make-ahead recipes
from SALLY CLARKE*



Special Occasion TRAVEL

OUR EDIT OF THE MOST MEMORABLE TRIPS OF A LIFETIME - WHETHER CELEBRATING AN ANNIVERSARY,
TICKING OFF YOUR BUCKET LIST OR LOOKING TO PLAN A MULTIGENERATIONAL FAMILY HOLIDAY

An aerial photograph of a small, rocky island in the middle of a large body of water. The island is covered in green vegetation and has a prominent white lighthouse with a red roof. The water around the island is clear and turquoise, showing the seabed. In the background, there are large, forested hills or mountains under a cloudy sky. A small boat is visible in the water to the right of the island.

An aerial view of a lighthouse off the island of Cres in Croatia, which is best explored on a private gulet (see overleaf)



FAMILY HIDEOUT

Only accessible by boat or helicopter, Oil Nut Bay on Virgin Gorda in the British Virgin Islands is the ultimate secluded escape. Stay at The Beach House, a sleek six-bedroom villa with an infinity pool and terrace, and a path that leads down to the palm tree-lined, white sand beach beyond. The social hub of the resort is the beach club, with three pools (one for children). There is also the Nut House Kids Club and all kinds of activities on offer, from beach volleyball to fishing excursions and diving. *Elegant Resorts* (elegantresorts.co.uk; 01244 897514) offers seven nights in The Beach House at Oil Nut Bay on a room-only basis from £5,289 per person (based on 12 adults sharing), including economy flights with British Airways, taxi and boat transfers and UK lounge passes. Price based on a January 20, 2021 departure.

PRIVATE ISLAND RETREAT

A 45-minute seaplane ride north of Male lies turtle-shaped Velaa Private Island, a slice of paradise with a Clarins spa, nine-hole golf course, kids' club and watersports. For couples, there are gorgeous overwater villas while larger groups can check-in to a four-room residence only accessible by boat (with a sun deck, pool and spa room). In the evenings, choose from fine dining at Agaru, casual beachfront Athiri and Japanese teppanyaki at Tavaru. *Carrier* (0161 492 1338, carrier.co.uk) offers seven nights from £10,720 per person, based on two sharing a one-bedroom Beach Pool Villa, or seven nights from £37,800 for two adults and two children sharing a two-bedroom Beach Pool House, both B&B. Prices include flights and seaplane transfers.



CARIBBEAN COOL

With blush-coloured beaches, sheltered bays and reefs for snorkelling, the twin-twin islands of Antigua and Barbuda are a shoo-in for a laid-back Caribbean getaway. Choose from the adults-only Cocos Hotel (ideal for couples) comprised of quaint cottages dotted around an ocean bluff; contemporary Carlisle Bay on the south coast, which is perfect for families (the children's club is excellent); and all-inclusive Jumby Bay, a 300-acre private island with a range of suites and villas, plus beaches, watersports and a yoga pavilion. *Turquoise Holidays* (turquoise.holidays.co.uk, 01494 678 400) offers seven nights at Carlisle Bay from £2,099 per person in a Garden Suite, B&B, and seven nights at Cocos in a Standard Cottage from £1,899 per person, all-inclusive. Both include international flights and transfers.