

TOP 10

Family destinations

Karl Cushing recommends 10 great places to visit with the family in 2017

1 TENERIFE

Ideal age All

What's great for families With its wealth of family-friendly facilities and attractions, this Canary Island is a class act. And, thanks to its great year-round weather, it's a winter sun staple, too. Factor in the mere four-hour flight time from the UK, and you can't go wrong. The more built-up resorts, such as the amiable Playa de las Americas and classier Costa Adeje, are mostly found in the south-west.

Sample Prestige Holidays has seven-night stays at H10 Costa Adeje Palace from £583 per person, half-board, including flights from Gatwick and private transfers. prestige-holidays.co.uk



2 CANADA

Ideal age 8 years and over

What's great for families Canada's a great bet for families with older, active kids. From learning survival skills in the summer camps of Quebec to horse-riding, kayaking and hiking in the Rockies or tracking migrating polar bears in Churchill, it's a playground for

those who love the outdoors. Winter resorts, such as Whistler and Banff, are also amenable to all ages, while Vancouver's attractions include Playland, Splashdown waterpark and TELUS World of Science.

Sample Explore has a two-week Family Canadian Adventure for £2,925 for adults and £2,725 for children, departing July 22, including flights. T: 01252 884 723 explore.co.uk

3 GREEK ISLANDS

Ideal age All

What's great for families Greece is a spellbinding all-round destination and the plethora of islands covers a range of tastes and budgets. Away from the all-inclusive resorts, self-catering villa and apartment stays are especially good for multi-generational groups, while teens will love the watersports and activities on offer — customary for operators such as Mark Warner. The larger islands — Rhodes and Crete, in particular — are rich in facilities.

Sample Simpson Travel has a one-week self-catering stay at Periyali Villas on Zakynthos, backed by creche facilities for little ones from six months of age, for £1,599 per person (based on three sharing) on July 23. Includes easyJet flights from Gatwick. simpsontravel.com

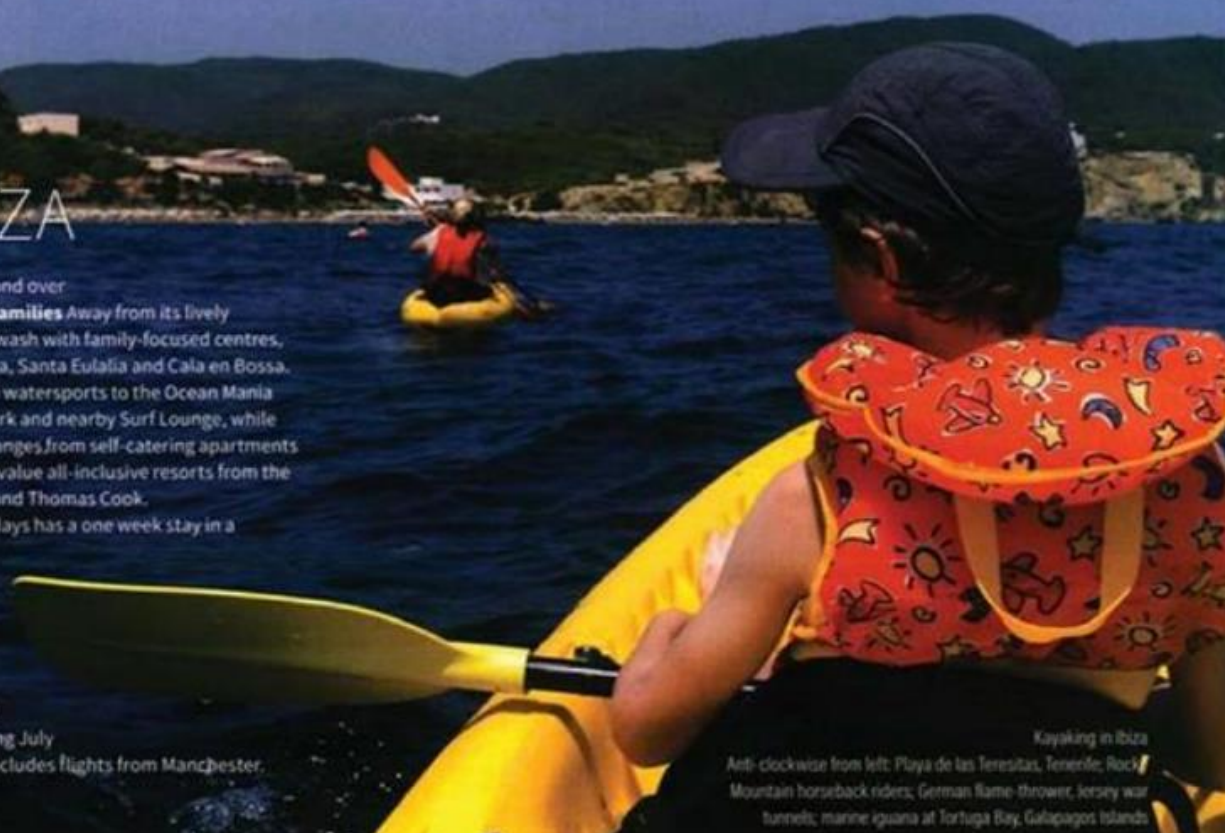
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IBIZA

Ideal age 5 years and over

What's great for families Away from its lively nightlife, Ibiza is awash with family-focused centres, such as Cala Llonga, Santa Eulalia and Cala en Bossa. Activities run from watersports to the Ocean Mania inflatable waterpark and nearby Surf Lounge, while accommodation ranges from self-catering apartments and villas to great value all-inclusive resorts from the likes of Thomson and Thomas Cook.

Sample Jet2 Holidays has a one week stay in a pool-view twin or double room at three-star Invisa Hotel Ereso in Es Cana for two adults and one child, departing July 11, from £1,584. Includes flights from Manchester. jet2.com



Kayaking in Ibiza
Anti-clockwise from left: Playa de las Teresitas, Tenerife; Rock Mountain horseback riders; German flame-thrower, Jersey war tunnels; marine iguana at Tortuga Bay, Galapagos Islands

5

CHANNEL ISLANDS

Ideal age 5 years and over

What's great for families Jersey and Guernsey have wonderful beaches, including Jersey's St Brelade's and Guernsey's Portelet. Meet animals at Jersey's Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust and explore the Second World War Tunnels.

Sample Prestige Holidays has four nights at the Atlantic Hotel in Jersey, followed by two nights at the Duke of Richmond and two nights at the Old Government House in Guernsey, from £2,764 for two adults and two children under 12. Includes return ferry crossing to Poole and internal ferries. prestigeholidays.co.uk



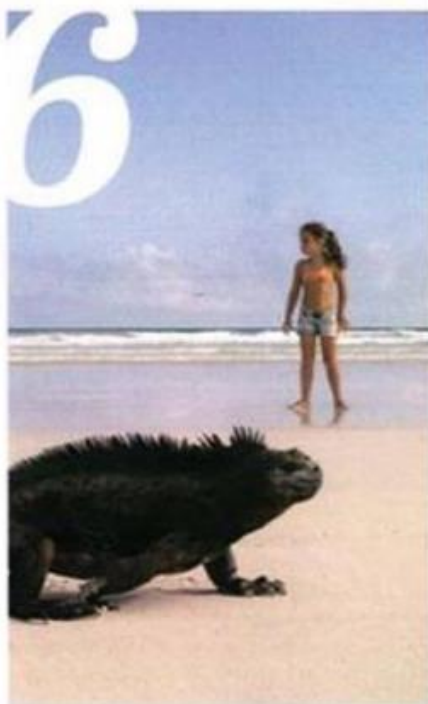
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GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

Ideal age 6 years and over

What's great for families If your kids love wildlife, they'll go nuts for the Galápagos, with its unparalleled, up-close animal encounters and incredible otherworldly landscapes. Onshore excursions are gentle and seldom long enough for young ones to get bored or restless, while the information-packed Darwin Centre on Santa Cruz, and engaging programmes, such as Metropolitan Touring's Little Pirates tour aboard *Santa Cruz II* for 6-12 year olds, mix education with fun.

Sample G Adventures has an eight-day Family Land Galápagos circular tour, from Quito to Quito, for two adults and one child for £3,767, departing July 22. Excludes international flights. godventures.co.uk ▶



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CALIFORNIA ROAD TRIP

Ideal age 10 years and over

What's great for families Iconic road trips on the Pacific Coast Highway between LA and San Francisco never go out of style, but are best undertaken when the kids have passed through the "are we there yet?" phase. All the family will enjoy quirky stops at Solvang, with its Danish buildings, and the mind-bending Mystery Spot near Santa Cruz, while more adult offerings include Monterey's vineyards and dragracing.

Sample Audley Travel's 11-day Coastal California self-drive leads in at £2,770 per person, including flights. audleytravel.com

ALGARVE

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Ideal age All
What's great for families Portugal's popular Algarve coast has a great range of accommodations that

cater to all pockets. Adults love the world-class golf courses, while all the gang can enjoy the waterparks, boat trips and Zoomarine's wildlife delights. Beaches with gentle, toddler-friendly waters include Praia da Marinha and Salema, where kids can go in search of fossilised dinosaur footprints.

Sample Monarch has a one-week self-catering stay in a one-bed apartment at Club Porto Mos near Lagos for £1,365, for a family of four, departing June 17. Price includes flights from Gatwick to Faro. monarch.co.uk

NEW ZEALAND

Ideal age 8 years and over

What's great for families New Zealand is all about adventure and the great outdoors, so it's a great destination for active older children. From Maori interactions in Rotorua and whale watching in Kaikoura to adrenalin-fuelled adventures around Queenstown, hiking on Franz Josef Glacier and kayaking around Abel Tasman National Park — the opportunities are endless. Less high-octane options include hunting for kiwi in Wellington's Zealandia attraction and visiting the Hobbiton Movie Set.

Sample Austravel (austravel.com) and Original Travel (originaltravel.co.uk) both offer tailored self-drive NZ itineraries. □

8 MALDIVES

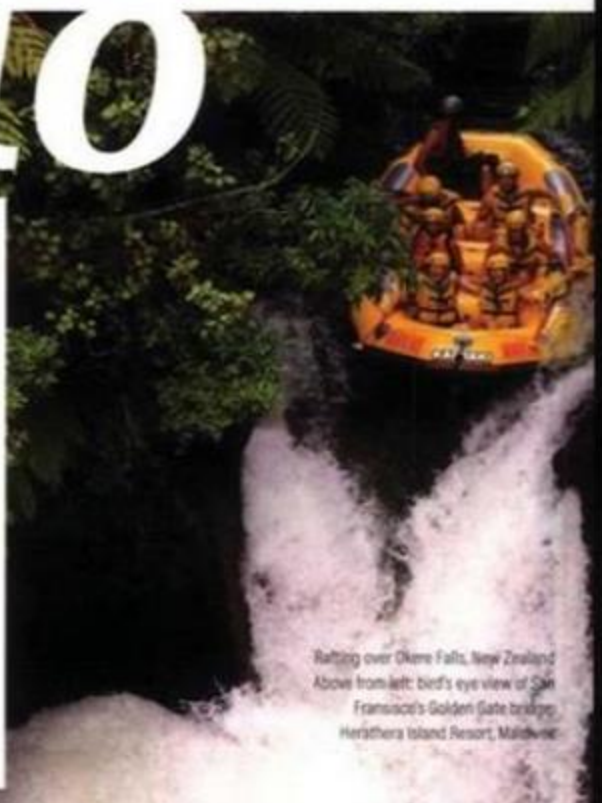
Ideal age 12 months and over

What's great for families The journey might be long with little ones in tow, but the range of local family-inspired resorts has spiralled over the last few years, from the all-inclusive Atmosphere Kanifushi to swanky Cheval Blanc Randheli. The proliferation of kids' clubs includes offerings for those from 12 months of age, as at Per Aquum Niyama, while at resorts such as the Dusit Thani and Four Seasons Resort at Kuda Huraa, you can even find dedicated kids' spa menus.

Sample Hayes & Jarvis has seven nights all-inclusive in a Sunset Villa at Atmosphere Kanifushi for two adults and one child for £5,527, departing April 19, including flights from Heathrow. hayesandjarvis.co.uk



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Rafting over Okere Falls, New Zealand
Above from left: bird's eye view of San Francisco's Golden Gate bridge; Herathara Island Resort, Maldives