

COOL

WITHOUT KIDS

The pool's an inflatable-free zone and you'll never hear the theme from Frozen. **Susan d'Arcy** rounds up summer holidays for grown-ups only

We get it. It's not that you don't like children. You were one once. It's just that sometimes – say, when you're on a lovely holiday that you've paid good money for – you'd rather they were neither seen nor heard. Smart hoteliers know this, so they've created serene, stylish resorts with a “No Kids Allowed” sign slapped firmly on the gates, all summer long. Below are our favourite adults-only hotels of the moment. And even if you do have kids, isn't it time Granny and Grandad spent a bit more quality time with them, anyway?

BLUE JASMINE, CEPHALONIA

A recent facelift ensures the sand-and-sea palette of these 12 suites feels boutiquey without

compromising on Greek charm. There's a cool pool, flower-filled gardens and

fabulous sea views. A small sandy cove is just a short walk away and Skala's bars and traditional tavernas are five minutes in the car.

From €995pp, including car hire, booked through Simpson Travel (simpsonstravel.com)

DOMES NORUZ CHANIA, CRETE

The actress Helen Hunt described Domes of Elounda as the most serene place she'd ever been. Its new sister property, Domes Noruz Chania, which opened on July 20, repeats the five-star formula: high-spec urban

design, enviable beachfront location, sybaritic spa. This time around, however, they've subtracted the crèche and the kids' club. The 83 rooms come with either a plunge pool or a hot tub.

We're less sure about the MP3 players loaded with mood music. Chania's old town is a pleasant stroll away.

From €1,700pp, booked through Sovereign (sovereign.com); domesnорuz.com

CASA COOK, RHODES

The high-street tour operator Thomas Cook opened its first “bohemian lifestyle” resort this summer, which basically works out as white walls, vintage furniture, ethnic cushions and rattan. It's not quite as cool as it thinks it is, but the pool, restaurant and bar merge into one another nicely and all of the 90 rooms back onto swim-up pools. You're a safe 13 kilometres from Faliraki's drunken debauchery.

From €1,385pp, booked through Casa Cook (casacook.com)

CASA ANGELINA, AMALFI COAST

This minimalist beauty, cut into the cliffs between

Positano and Amalfi, has 39 bedrooms with sugar-white decor and dramatic Murano sculptures that would bring any parent out in a cold sweat. The hotel owns a section of Gavitella Beach (reached by a lift, or 200 steps if you need to work off some spaghetti) and there's a spa, a pool and a terrace with sea views. Extra brownie points on offer if you hire the hotel's boat for a trip to Capri.

From €2,595pp, booked through Black Tomato (blacktomato.com); casangelina.com

BOHEMIA SUITES, GRAN CANARIA

These 67 honey-toned rooms have the indoor/outdoor design concept down to a fine

Canary island of black-sand beaches, pine forests and starry, starry nights (the

island was the world's first designated Starlight Reserve). Base yourself at Tzacorte, on the west coast, home to the island's best hotel. Built on a sugar-baron's 17th-century estate, the 32 rooms are delightful mini-museums of antiques and ancestral oils. One modern addition is the minibar, stocked with free soft drinks.

From €1,180pp, booked through Prestige Holidays (prestigeholidays.co.uk); hotelhaciendadeabajos.com

theme from frozen wafting in from the room next door at the House, a glitzy retreat in a prime position on the Platinum Coast, between the buzzy capital, Bridgetown, and the

bars of Hometown. Grown-up treats include a jet-lag massage on the beach, champagne on tap at breakfast every morning, and Hobie Cats to sail, all free of charge. Right next door, Daphne's restaurant, the Bajan outpost of London's Le Caprice, serves superior Italian comfort food.

From €1,945pp, booked through Blue Bay Travel (caribbeanwarehouse.co.uk); thehousebarbados.com

art, with balconies that feel like a continuation of the slick bedrooms. The rooftop restaurant is the perfect perch from which to weigh up the three kilometres of Playa del Ingles below. There's an indulgent spa, too.

From €1,110pp, half-board, booked through Jet2 Holidays (jet2holidays.com); bohemia-grancanaria.com

HOTEL MARIGNA, IBIZA

There's mood rather than disco lighting in the 44 Mediterranean-inspired rooms of this retreat in the

heart of Ibiza Town. It has a coffee shop rather than an all-night bar, and a rooftop terrace for sunsets, sangria and stories of celebrated raves of yesteryear.

Doubles from €112 a night, B&B; hotelmarignaibiza.com. Fly to Ibiza with Aer Lingus and Ryanair

HACIENDA DE ABAJO, LA PALMA

Turn sharp right at Tenerife and discover La Palma, a

CASA LA SIESTA, ANDALUSIA

You can't open a hotel called House of Sleep in Andalusia's snooziest corner and then let kids in. This haven on the Costa de la Luz, 10 minutes from the romantic white village of Vejer de la Frontera, has just eight rooms. The owner is one half of the interior-design firm Bert & May, so expect stucco walls, pitched ceilings with exposed beams and recycled rough-cut wooden furniture, but no artwork — it'd be tricky for paintings to compete with the olive groves and lavender fields outside.

Doubles from €260 a night, B&B; casalasiesta.com.

Fly to Jerez with Ryanair (only via London Stansted)

THE HOUSE, BARBADOS

There's no danger of the

HURAWALHI, MALDIVES

The Maldives has more than 1,200 resorts to choose from — Hurawalhi, when it opens in November, will be one of only a handful of adults-only properties. Apart from the standard bone-white beaches and Tiffany-blue waters, this place has 90 cutting-edge rooms (the pick are the 15 ocean sunset pool villas) and the world's

largest underwater restaurant, sunk almost 20ft down. Two minutes from your balcony is a breeding site for manta rays — just the sort of

babies you probably won't mind bumping into.

From €2,950pp, booked through The Holiday Place (holidayplace.co.uk); hurawalhi.com

KAHANDA KANDA, SRI LANKA

OK, this hotel does let in children — but they have to be older

than 12 and
extremely well
behaved, at
that. We just
couldn't leave
Kahanda
Kanda off
the list. It's one
of the island's
most beautiful
boutique hotels, set
amid Lake Koggala's tea
plantations, an easy tuk-tuk
ride from Galle. Lush gardens
and lily ponds form buffer
zones between the 10 villas,
each filled with exquisite local
antiques and a four-poster.

The views over the
jungle and lake will
lower your blood
pressure
instantly.
The food is
delicious:
learn the
secrets of that
sensational
seafood curry
during a cookery
class.

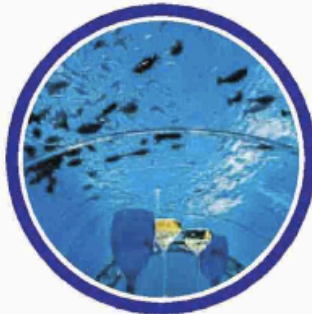
From €1,995pp, booked
through Ampersand Travel
(ampersandtravel.com);
kahandakanda.com



**Not a bucket and
spade in sight**
Right, raise a glass
on your child-free
beach. Left, the
high-spec decks
at Domes Noruz
Chania, on Crete



No fear of being dive-bombed in the pools at Kahanda Kanda, above, in Sri Lanka, or at Casa Cook, left, in Rhodes. Right, from top, Hurawalhi, in the Maldives, has a supersized underwater restaurant; plenty of room on the beach at The House, Barbados; and time for a leisurely breakfast at Blue Jasmine, on Cephalonia



Packages are for a week in August or September and include breakfast and flights (ex-UK) unless stated