

baby&me JUNE 2014

a magazine for childhood

baby&me

JUNE 2014
£3.95

GOOD BEATS

*Festival fun for
all the family*

Far & away

*Pack up with the
big travel issue*

Desert bloom

*Fashion goes retro
in Palm Springs*

Little kingdom

A WORLD OF
IMAGINATION FOR
ADVENTURERS





Close to HOME

Beautiful cultures, luxurious surroundings, and world-class children's clubs await at Europe's top family-friendly destinations. The best part, writes Daniela Burnham, is that they are all just a short plane ride away.

1 BORGO EGNAZIA, ITALY *For a seaside retreat...*

Set amidst 40 acres on Puglia's breezy Adriatic coast, Borgo Egnazia is a vast and elegantly contemporary resort that puts the focus on family. The estate has a cosy village feel with a variety of two-storey townhouses, three-bedroom villas and a boutique hotel that cater to groups of all sizes. Three innovative kids' clubs offer a wide range of

activities to keep children busy – including an outdoor cinema, water sports, tennis, a pizza-making class and more. There are also two beach clubs, on-site restaurants, a cookery school, gym, spa and world-class golf course. The summer months are divine on the Adriatic, or book for September when it is quieter and the sea is still warm.

HOW TO GET THERE

* Direct flights are available from London to Bari Airport. Private transfers or car hire can be arranged through the hotel. borgoegnazia.com



2 VERDURA GOLF & SPA RESORT, SICILY *For a dip in the Med...*

The Verdura Golf & Spa Resort has been carefully designed as a family-friendly space with the sparkling Mediterranean Sea and historic beauty of Sicily at your fingertips. Parents can enjoy Verdura's al fresco dining where fresh tapas and Sicilian wines are served, while children stay active in the complimentary kids' clubs. Even little ones are looked after with a special turndown service featuring homemade cookies and milk at bedtime. For adults who could use a bit of pampering, the Vita Health spa is not to be missed.

HOW TO GET THERE

* Book a direct flight from London to Palermo Airport. The hotel can help with a helicopter transfer or car hire. roccoortebotels.com

3 MARTINHAL, PORTUGAL *For family fun in the Algarve...*

There is a reason the Martinal Beach Resort and Hotel has become one of the most popular family destinations in Europe: they make it easy for everyone to enjoy their holidays. From the baby concierge service that allows parents to order everything from sterilisers to stair gates before arrival, to the multiple kids' clubs for ages two

months and up, all the logistics are covered. Depending on your family's needs, you can book private villas or more spacious houses, which come with stylish decor and daily maid service. The unspoiled natural setting is worth exploring, and with fresh local food on the menu at the numerous dining options, no one will go hungry.

HOW TO GET THERE

* Direct flights are regular from London to Faro Airport. Transfer to the hotel can be arranged and is about 90 minutes. martinal.com



4 TERRE BLANCHE, FRANCE

For adventure seekers...

Terre Blanche's sprawling resort in the Provençal countryside is one of a kind, with an array of outdoor activities, first-rate service and gastronomic delights. All villas and suites come with private terraces to enjoy the lush, landscaped gardens. The complimentary kids' club for ages two to 12 includes games of *pétanque* and golf workshops. The hotel can even organise a bicycle ride or vintage car excursion for those who want to explore the local area – gourmet picnic included.

HOW TO GET THERE

* *Book a direct flight from London to Nice Airport, and then a car transfer can be arranged through the hotel. terre-blanche.com*



6 SUN GARDENS, CROATIA

For a taste of the Dalmatian Coast...

Just in time for summer, Scott Dunn's new Explorers Club is launching at the Sun Gardens luxury family resort in Dubrovnik. With the glittering Adriatic Sea as the backdrop, children will enjoy action-packed days, including a climbing wall at the Sports Centre and baking in the kitchen. Fresh seafood is aplenty at the resort's restaurants, while the world-renowned spa gives parents a well-deserved break. All the family will love venturing into the walled Old City for a stroll on the marble streets and gelato. A truly magical place.

HOW TO GET THERE

* *Return flights to Dubrovnik and private transfers included in Scott Dunn's seven night package. From £1,460 per person based on a family of four. scottdunn.com*



5 SCHLOSS ELMAU, GERMANY

For a cultural mountain hideaway...

Tucked in a secluded valley at the foot of the Bavarian Alps, Schloss Elmau is a modern, five-star retreat that combines culture and relaxation for families. Of the several luxury spas on site, the outdoor Nature Spa (open in summer only) is a unique experience for all ages, with a sauna at

a crystal clear creek and a playground. There are also six gourmet restaurants, including the Michelin-starred Luce d'Oro. Cultural events, ranging from jazz concerts to literary festivals, will keep adults stimulated while the children take advantage of the various youth programs.

HOW TO GET THERE

* *Fly from London to Munich or Innsbruck, and the hotel will assist with a shuttle or train transport. schloss-elmau.de*

