



4 Trevone Farm, Trevone near Padstow, Cornwall

Designed by Jill Stein, former wife of chef Rick Stein, these four stone-and-glass cottages near Padstow have terraces overlooking the spectacular cliffs of Trevone Bay. The three-bedroom cottages sleep six with one en suite double while the four-bedroom one sleeps eight and has a second en suite double. Each has a modern kitchen, woodburner and an outdoor shower for washing off the sand from the beach. **Details** A week for six costs from £1,280 or £1,535 for eight (01841 532700, rickstein.com)

5 Hive Beach House
Burton Bradstock, Dorset
Wallow in your hot tub on the deck of this wooden house overlooking Hive Beach on the World Heritage coastline. Inside it's simply decorated with whitewashed walls, wood floors and nautical touches. Climb a ladder to a double room over the open-plan living area. Downstairs is a double and twin with an extra truckle bed. Watch the sun go down around the firepit or walk to the Hive Beach Café for seafood. Or walk along the coast to Lyme Regis with its fossil museum and famous harbour. **Details** Three nights for six cost from £600 (coolstays.com)

6 Shaldon Beach Huts
Shaldon, Devon
It's unusual to find beach huts for overnight stays — and these new-build ones overlooking the River Teign in the sleepy village of Shaldon are special. Each compact chic interior features a galley kitchen with a granite worktop, sleek bathroom with power shower, and a king-size bed on a mezzanine. Foodies are well catered for with a stylish café next door perfect for an alfresco breakfast while a stroll away is ODE, run by Michel Roux-trained chef Tim Bouget and specialising in organic produce. **Details** Two nights for two cost from £220 (coolstays.com)

7 Tamarisk Beach House Woolacombe, Devon
This elegant 1930s Arts and Crafts-style house overlooks Woolacombe Bay. Once frequented by Hollywood stars, it's very chic with its art deco furnishings and fireplace in the open-plan kitchen and living area. Eat alfresco on the sea-view balcony or in the tiered garden. The master bedroom has an en suite and a window seat with stupendous views. There are two further doubles and a twin. Take a boat trip to Lundy Island, go rockpooling or surfing at Woolacombe, or explore Exmoor National Park. **Details** Three nights for eight cost from £695 (01637 881183, uniquehomestays.com)

8 Carswell Farm Holbeton, Devon

These seven cottages are dotted across an organic farm leading down to secluded beaches in the scenic South Hams. One of the nicest cottages is the Lodge, an eco-friendly, two-bedroom house with oak floors and bespoke furniture using oak from the estate. Lambside House is an elegant Georgian property sleeping up to 14. Most of the cottages are ideal for families, with baby equipment, a play area and wi-fi for teenagers. Take the sea tractor to Burgh Island from Bigbury-on-Sea with its Venus café, or head into Plymouth. **Details** A week for four costs from £695 (The Lodge) or a week for two is from £625 (The Mews), (01752 830020, farmstay.co.uk)

9 Bantam House
Bantam Beach, Devon
Enjoy views of the river estuary and Burgh Island from this 18th-century house near the surf beach of Bantam, popular with locals and backed by marram grass-covered dunes. The interior is chic but homely with white sofas and shelves filled with books in the sitting room and doors leading to a Mediterranean-style patio. Upstairs are four bedrooms including a master suite with an ornate king-size bed and roll-top bath. There are two further doubles and a bunk-bedded room. Cook in the kitchen on its four-door electric Aga or head to the Sloop pub for local cider and excellent food. **Details** A week for eight costs from £908 (0800 610 1122, toadhallcottages.co.uk)

10 Teal Cottage
Southern England
Whitstable, Kent
There's no need to bring a car when you stay at this two-bedroom period cottage a few minutes' walk from a shingle beach, the fish market and seafood restaurants. It's light and airy with high ceilings, wood floors and vintage seaside prints. Steep stairs lead to a double room with an iron bedstead and a twin. The kitchen is done out simply with an old dresser and stone floor. **Details** A week for four costs from £390 (01580 720770, kentandsussexcottages.co.uk)

11 Pear Trees Cottage
East Preston, West Sussex
Children will love the trampoline, table tennis table and vast lawn ideal for ball games at this bungalow on a coastal estate. There are three bedrooms, a



king-size, double and bunk bed room plus a family bathroom. A woodburner in the light and bright lounge keeps it cosy. After a day on the beach near by, return for a barbecue on the terrace or book a babysitter for a meal out à deux. **Details** A week for six costs from £895 (0203 603 1160, babyfriendlyboltholes.co.uk)

12 Boho House Pett Level, East Sussex

This three-bedroom designer house has brought Miami-style chic to Pett Level's shingle beach. Floor-to-ceiling windows from the living area lead to a balcony overlooking the private garden with a built-in barbecue, outdoor beanbag and a gate leading on to the beach. It's high tech with a sound system and cinema room plus splashes of zingy colour in the spacious bathrooms. At low tide there's an expanse of sand and rock pools. **Details** Three nights for six cost from £945, a week for six from £1,350 (ownersdirect.co.uk; reference EB401)

13 Driftwood Seaford, East Sussex

Stride out along the chalk cliffs to pretty Cuckmere Haven when you stay at this light-filled two-bedroom cottage overlooking Seaford's beach. Decorated in fresh, neutral colours with hardwood floors and New England-style furniture, it has a king-size bedroom and twin with crisp white bed linen. There's a courtyard garden linked to a terrace ideal for watching sunsets. Walk into the town for fish and chips at Trawler's or a sit-down meal at Ollivers. Brighton is nearby. **Details** Two nights for four cost from £298 (holidaylettings.co.uk; ref. 510248)

14 Portsmouth Cottage

Hayling Island, Hants
This five-bedroom property incorporates two converted railway carriages that make characterful bedrooms. It's very light and airy with a stylish kitchen, designer chairs and doors opening on to an enclosed patio garden with a gate leading to the pebble beach. Hayling Island is a haven for water-sports lovers and you can learn to paddleboard or windsurf. Chichester, with its spectacular cathedral, and Portsmouth, home to HMS Victory, are both within easy reach. **Details** Three nights for eight cost from £981, a week from £1,291 (0203 637 0812, snaptrp.com, ref. S14125)

15 Mulberry Barn

Milford on Sea, Hants
There's no need to pack all the baby equipment — everything from plastic



crockery to sterilisers are supplied when you stay at this family-friendly house in the village of Milford. Newly built using handmade bricks and tiles, it's very comfortable with an open-plan living area with an L-shaped sofa and french doors leading to a terrace. The well-equipped kitchen has two ovens, a large fridge freezer and wine fridge. Upstairs are two en suite double bedrooms, one of which can be converted to a twin. **Details** Three nights for four cost from £425 (0203 603 1160, babyfriendlyboltholes.co.uk)

16 Jib Cottage

Eastern England
Blakeney, Norfolk
This tiny two-storey brick and flint grade II listed fisherman's cottage has been beautifully restored. There's a Shaker-style galley kitchen, a cosy lounge and a pretty double room with a wrought-iron bed. Once a busy fishing and trading port before the harbour silted up, Blakeney is typical of this stretch of coast with its flintstone cottages and Dutch-style gabled buildings. Go on a seal-watching trip to Blakeney Point or visit nearby Wells-next-the-Sea. **Details** A week for two costs from £405 (01263 715779, norfolkcountycottages.co.uk)

17 Colchester Cottage

West Mersea, Essex
There are views of the salt marsh, beach and houseboats from the bedrooms of this 17th-century cottage on Mersea Island, which is reached via a causeway. Inside, it is very snug with a kitchen with wooden work tops, a sitting room, modern bathroom and steep stairs