



Where two prices are given, they are for the cheapest and most expensive weeks available at the time of going to press

BEACH

1 TRESCO, ISLES OF SCILLY SLEEPS 6

The Flying Boat Cottages are so close to New Grimsby beach, you could chuck a Frisbee to your kids from the balcony. And what a beach: sugar-fine, and only a coconut short of the Caribbean. The cedar-clad modern houses are posh, grown-up surfer shacks, with huge windows opening onto the beach, and grant free access to the Flying Boat Club's indoor pool, spa, tennis courts and the golf course at St Mary's.
£1,475/£4,725; 01720 422849, tresco.co.uk

2 PADSTOW, CORNWALL SLEEPS 10

Lottery losers, look away now. The Cornish Beach House is unashamedly high-end, an oak, glass and steel luxury pad on the bone-whitest of beaches – with a price tag to match. Steps from the sand at Booby's Bay, the five-bedroom house has original artworks, Ralph Lauren furnishings, a foreverness of folding glass doors and a cinema room.
£6,580/£8,995; 01242 220006, thewowhousecompany.com

3 RUDE, CORNWALL SLEEPS 2

We wanted to leave the Beach Hut out. Tori Amos has used it in a music video, Demi Moore has used it in a film, we've featured it before. It's been done. But this 1920s tearoom turned boutique beach hut is just too good, clinging to the cliffs above its own tiny cove, with a clapperboard veranda licked by sea spray.
£1,725/£3,000; 01637 881183, uniquehomestays.com

4 CHARMOUTH, DORSET SLEEPS 6

It's more than a fossil toss from Stonebarrow Lodge to the Jurassic Coast beaches of Charmouth, but only just. Great for families, the three-bedroom cottage is only half a mile from the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre, where kids can enjoy rock-pool rambles – but good luck getting them out of the panoramic two-acre garden and outdoor hot tub.
£1,413/£1,887; 01326 555555, classic.co.uk

5 SANDHANKS, DORSET SLEEPS 7

We don't get Beachboys. It's 50yd from the beach in a part of the world where property prices are up there with Kensington's; it's a three-storey, four-bedroom, fancy-pants modernist house near the iconic Jazz Cafe; and it can be yours for less than £1,000 a week. Book now, before the owners spot the mistake.
£934/£1,884; 01747 828170, hideaways.co.uk; ref H301

6 HYE, EAST SUSSEX SLEEPS 7

If Ikea did seafront houses with a dash of funky 1960s design, they'd look like No 7. Bright, breezy and full of colour, with the odd Eames lounge chair and retro sideboard to keep it hip, it's also a snip, given that you're a minute from Camber Sands.
£800/£1,200; 01242 522525, www.camberbeachhouses.co.uk

7 OSEA ISLAND, ESSEX SLEEPS 4

It's only 50 miles from London to Manor Beach Cottages, on Osea Island, but it feels like a lifetime away. Reached by a Roman causeway, the 400-acre private island reopened to the public in 2012, and slebs have piled in so quick, they're calling it Essex's Necker.

£800/£1,100; 01621 788593, oseaisland.co.uk

8 SEA PALLING, NORFOLK SLEEPS 2

We love a creaky timber veranda, especially when you can smell the sea from it. Tucked up against the dunes at Sea Palling, Santa Monica has just that. We can't promise California sunshine, but this former fishermen's cabin, clad in clapperboard inside and out, has a pot-bellied stove and a path over the Marram dunes to a Blue Flag beach.
£404/£474; 01263 715779, norfolkcottages.co.uk

9 RHOSSILI, SWANSEA SLEEPS 8

It could be a Bond villain's lair or a luxury Teletubby house. Either way, Oriel Gwyr is cool, a grass-roofed crescent of stone and glass hewn above Rhossili Bay – one of the best beaches on the Gower Peninsula, and, let's face it, in the world.
£950/£1,895; 01792 390339, the-gower.com

10 FRESHWATER EAST, PEMBROKESHIRE SLEEPS 11

This stunning pocket of Pembrokeshire, wedged between sea cliffs on a golden one-mile beach, makes Long Island look like Benidorm. And there, nestled in the dunes right by the sand, is Merlin House, a hip five-bedroom retreat with washed oak floors, wraparound decking, floor-to-ceiling windows and a Ron Arad rocking chair.
£1,111/£1,619; 01437 772767, coastalcottages.co.uk

11 FISHGUARD, PEMBROKESHIRE SLEEPS 6

The film-set fabulous Pen-y-Parrog sits beside a wild, windswept pebble beach, blinking into the breeze towards Dinas Head. Not for nothing was it Elizabeth Taylor's quintessential Pembrokeshire cottage in Under Milk Wood. The open-plan property is right on the Pembrokeshire Coastal Path, with a cosy log-burning

lounge st cabin by £495/£9 underthet

12 AORIN NORTH PEMBROKESHIRE SLEEPS 2

At high tide Coastguard curl-up-v with the N against y at low tide the beach world of r walks awa Way passe £585/950; nationaltrus

13 LOW NE NORTH PEMBROKESHIRE SLEEPS 8

You could l next to Low die happy. Retreat – a cottage spla and creams two-mile cr sand – and to leave. Pu

SUB COTTAGE

Summer will come, we promise yourself to a cracking home from has the pick of this year's

