

of the BEST

FAMILY HONEYMOONS

From beach escapes to safaris, there's a host of great options for after the vows are over, finds **Alice Barnes-Brown**

Life's milestones don't necessarily follow the traditional order of wedding, honeymoon and birth of a first child. It's increasingly common for couples to have children before getting married – so you might have to factor kids into their first getaway as newlyweds.

The number of clients looking at honeymoons for more than two people is slowly growing. Research by Prezola, which creates online wedding registries and honeymoon funds, found 14% of those surveyed were considering a 'buddymoon' or 'familymoon'. Whether couples prefer to keep the kids close or are happy to spend time separately, there's a trip to keep every member of the family happy.



SUBLIME SARDINIA

Sardinia is fabulous for families wanting a 'minimoon', with topaz seas ripe for water babies and fussy-eater-friendly food. Suggest the Forte Village resort, a collection of eight hotels, 13 villas and 40 suites. All properties share a stunning (and safe) beach, so families can choose between spreading out on the sand or relaxing by one of the nine swimming pools. The Children's Wonderland runs activities for all ages, from Barbie experiences to go-karting, giving newlyweds plenty of time to explore the isle, take a thalassotherapy treatment or savour a meal by chef Heinz Beck, whose three-Michelin-starred dining is the perfect recipe for a romantic evening.

Book it: Citalia offers a five-night half-board stay at the Hotel Bouganville in Forte Village from £4,769 for a family of four, including transfers and flights. The price is based on a May 25, 2025, departure and is valid for bookings made this year. citalia.com



STARRY-EYED SAFARI

Camping out under a canopy of stars and being lulled to sleep by a chorus of crickets is certain to make for a memorable stay for all ages – which is why Families Worldwide has a wildlife-watching itinerary in Zambia that the whole family is sure to love. Based in the 3,500-square-mile South Luangwa National Park, kids and grown-ups can keep their eyes peeled for wildebeests, giraffes, zebras, hippos, elephants, leopards and other big-ticket wildlife as they journey through grassy landscapes. Morning game drives are preceded by a light breakfast, while in the afternoons, there is time to chill before heading out for early-evening wildlife tours with sundowners (or soft drinks).

Book it: Eight days' full-board starts at £3,095 for adults and £2,195 for children, including park passes, listed excursions, flights and transfers, departing between October 1 and December 1, 2025. familiesworldwide.co.uk

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COOL CARIBBEAN

Turks and Caicos frequently features on honeymoon wish lists, offering coral beaches, clear seas and castaway vibes. Family-oriented all-inclusive resort Beaches Turks & Caicos is divided into four distinct ‘villages’ – France, Italy, the Caribbean and Key West – so clients can explore whichever area suits their mood.

An expansive water park, complete with lazy rivers, toddler pool and a new surf simulator, means the whole family can make thrilling holiday memories. However, if they need some space from each other, the kids’ and teens’ clubs are second to none – the youngsters are split by age groups and can enjoy activities ranging from reggae jam sessions to beach science programmes and Sesame Street-inspired fun.

Book it: Seven nights’ all-inclusive for two adults and two children in an Italian Concierge Family Suite with Kids Room starts at £5,159 for adults and £875 for under-11s when booked by October 3. The price includes flights on May 8, 2025, and transfers. sellingsandals.co.uk



PICTURES: Shutterstock/Sharon Hoeger; JR Dellor; Thomas Zikos



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GREEK GEM

Swish Sani Resort has been named Europe’s Leading Family Resort at the World Travel Awards every year since 2019, so the huge Halkidiki development is a safe bet for clients seeking a short-haul stay. Sani’s sandy beaches, children’s menus by nutritionist Annabel Karmel and chilled Greek atmosphere come together beautifully for an idyllic family miniholiday. Sani Asterias, one of five properties on the resort, has a boutique feel and recently renovated its top-end Beachfront Residences. The elegant one and two-bed bungalows now offer more space, while the services have also been upgraded: families can spend quality time snuggled up in the home cinema, and while the little ones are at play, parents can dive into the fully stocked wine fridge or indulge in an in-room beauty treatment.

Book it: Elegant Resorts sells a seven-night stay in a One Bedroom Grand Balcony Beach Front Residence on a half-board basis from £14,255 per family. The price includes flights, lounge access and private transfers, and is based on a June 21, 2025, departure. elegantresorts.co.uk

DESTINATIONS

WEDDINGS & HONEYMOONS | FAMILY

Best OF THE REST

🌟 **Turkey with tots:** The Tui Blue Tropical, near Dalaman, combines a showstopping honeymoon suite including an in-room Jacuzzi with flexible family spaces, featuring two sofa beds for little ones that can be folded away by day. There are plenty of supervised activities for kids, while the disco for grown-ups is open until 2am. Prices start at £564 per person for seven nights' all-inclusive, including flights, baggage and transfers, departing April 22, 2025. tui.co.uk

🌟 **Dubai dining:** The vibe at the Jumeirah Beach Hotel suits familymoons perfectly: it's high-end and understated, with optimal views of Dubai sunsets. Clients can connect over shared platters of mezze or their favourite French dishes, while a jam-packed children's schedule keeps young brains stimulated. Prices lead in at £9,749 for a family of four on a room-only basis, including flights and transfers, departing February 10, 2025. kuoni.co.uk

🌟 **Bali high:** Bamboo Travel's 13-night self-guided family tour of Bali makes discovering the Indonesian paradise as easy as pie. A few days are spent by the sea in Sanur, followed by experiences including horse riding in West Bali National Park and meeting local artisans in rice paddy villages. Prices start at £3,295 for adults and £2,695 for children, including flights, transport, B&B accommodation and activities. bambootravel.co.uk



FABULOUS FLORIDA

Why not turn a family trip to Orlando into a honeymoon to remember? Encourage clients to splash out a little on accommodation and they will get the best of both worlds: theme parks aplenty, plus delicious restaurants and sumptuous spas to retreat to when they'd like to wind down from the excitement. The Four Seasons Orlando Walt Disney World Resort, for example, is a mere 15-minute shuttle ride away from the four main Disney parks and features a water park with splashing fountains and a complimentary kids' club for under-12s. The 10-hectare resort also offers everything newlyweds could need for an elegant honeymoon: a rooftop steakhouse, an 18-hole championship golf course, adult-only pool and massages using CBD oils in the spa.

Book it: Ocean Florida offers a seven-night stay on a room-only basis from £3,229 per person, based on two adults and two children sharing a Golden Oak View Room. The price includes flights on March 24, 2025. ocean-florida.co.uk/agents

6 ARCTIC ADVENTURE

A new British Airways flight to Ivalo in Finnish Lapland, which launches in December, will open up more of the Arctic Circle – and a lodge set in powdery snow could be just the ticket for a kid-friendly honeymoon, come winter. The Wilderness Hotel Inari, a 40-minute drive from Ivalo airport, offers family accommodation with in-room saunas (a true Finnish asset) and space for four. Handy aurora borealis wake-up alarms mean guests can watch the moving display from their window or the neighbouring Inari Lake. During daylight hours, clients can tick off plenty of bucket-list Lapland activities, including husky sledding, ice fishing, a visit to a reindeer farm and snowmobile rides with kids pulled in a sled behind the guide.

Book it: Best Served Scandinavia offers seven nights' full board in an Arctic Chalet at the Wilderness Hotel Inari for £3,575 per adult and £2,665 per child under 14, for stays from January 7-31, 2025. The prices include flights, transfers, thermal clothing and listed excursions. best-served.co.uk



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