

## SUMMER STUNNERS

Save

Find inspiration for short-haul summer getaways for all budgets with Alice Barnes-Brown's top picks

ways

**P**icture the summery scene: children splashing in the pool, careering down fun-filled waterslides while their parents recline in a sunlounger to keep a watchful eye, perhaps with a cocktail in hand.

As cost-of-living pressures continue to squeeze holiday budgets, pay-ahead package deals like this can offer unbeatable value and peace of mind.

Last month, online travel agent On the

Beach claimed that 74% of family bookings in the first three weeks of April were for all-inclusive holidays, while younger clients are also checking into more all-inclusive resorts: Expedia's Unpack '25 report revealed that two in five Gen Z holidaymakers chose all-inclusive as their preferred hotel type.

It doesn't have to mean a mega-resort, either: there are plenty of properties in picturesque spots. Here are a few options to give your clients all-inclusive inspiration.

The mountainous isle of Brač is one of Croatia's most scenic spots. Flat-topped hills, sprinkled with around one million olive trees, slope gently into the turquoise waters of the Adriatic. Beaches include Zlatni Rat, an ever-shifting spit of shingle jutting into the sea, and the rocky swimming coves at Milna.

On the fringe of one of these coves is Gava Waterman Milna Resort, embraced by forested hills on one side and sheltered waters on the other. It's packed with facilities: children and the young-at-heart can enjoy the giant inflatable obstacle course, borrow kayaks and paddleboards, play a round (or three) of racket sports and even test their mettle with archery.

Grown-ups will love the large outdoor pool with views over the bay, overlooked by a Croatian-inspired alfresco restaurant, which dishes up Adriatic fare such as

cheesy chard pies alongside international options. **Book it:** Tui sells a seven-night holiday at Gava Waterman Milna Resort from £1,032 per person, based on two adults and two children sharing a Junior Suite with Balcony or Terrace on an all-inclusive basis. The price includes transfers, luggage and flights departing Gatwick on August 15. [tui.co.uk](https://tui.co.uk)

**Or try:** Situated in the southern Algarve region of Portugal, and straddling two of Albufeira's finest beaches from its sandstone perch, Auramar Beach Resort has all the family essentials: two pools, a small spa, games room, kids' club and even regular mini-golf tournaments. A wander along the sand will take clients to Albufeira's Old Town, where they can explore the cobblestone streets, watch fishing boats at work or shop for Portuguese rooster-themed souvenirs.

**Book it:** Mercury Holidays sells a seven-night all-inclusive stay from £1,068 per person, based on two adults and two children sharing a quadruple room. Includes luggage, transfers and flights from Luton departing August 12. [mercuryholidays.co.uk](https://mercuryholidays.co.uk)

Gava Waterman  
Milna Resort, Croatia



## DESTINATIONS

ALL-INCLUSIVE HOLIDAYS | SHORT-HAUL

# Spend



"The most common misconception is that all-inclusive holidays only appeal to families with children or those who simply want to relax.

However, this is not the case. There is no 'one type' of all-inclusive customer and agents should focus on the great value and better control of the purse strings that all-inclusive offers. Filters on our travel agent website make it easier to narrow down the results, as does our AI-powered search tool that helps agents find the right property.

Agents can also add value by highlighting the specific features that an all-inclusive resort offers, such as spa facilities, kids' clubs, themed restaurants or included excursions."

**Simon Marshall, national sales manager – trade sales, Jet2holidays**



Vila Galé Isla Canela, Spain

**Spain's Costa de la Luz combines long, sandy beaches and lapping surf with rural marshland, home to an array of wildlife including storks, tree frogs and otters. Sandwiched between these two ecosystems is four-star Vila Galé Isla Canela, which opened in 2024.**

With 300 rooms, three bars, three pools, two restaurants (a buffet and an Italian pizzeria) and an impressive roster of entertainment for all ages, the resort is a sure-fire sell for families.

Kids can develop their craft skills or make new friends by taking part in team sports, while adults can explore the rest of

the property, which is decorated in a Moorish-inspired design, or get a few laps in at the main pool.

Outside, guests can directly access the beach via a boardwalk through the tall grass, to take in fresh Atlantic air, spy Portugal across the border at the Guadiana River or book a kitesurfing lesson with a local operator. They could also wander the paths through Marismas de Isla Cristina nature reserve, a 10-minute drive away.

**Book it:** Jet2holidays sells a seven-night, all-inclusive stay at Vila Galé Isla Canela from £1,489 per person, based on two adults and two children sharing. Includes transfers, baggage and flights departing

“With 300 rooms, three bars, three pools, two restaurants and entertainment, the resort is a sure-fire sell for families

Birmingham on August 20.  
[jet2holidays.com](https://jet2holidays.com)

**Or try:** With spellbinding views across the sheer-sided cliffs of Punto del Calottino and mere steps from the topaz inlets that Sardinia is known for, VOI Colonna Village could not be better situated. Family-

friendly facilities abound here, from the open-air theatre that stages dance and cabaret performances to fully staffed baby sleeping rooms for naptimes.

Providing fun for all the family, the resort offers guided beach walks with marine biologists, while budding athletes can compete in regular five-a-side football and tennis tournaments.

**Book it:** EasyJet holidays sells a seven-night stay at VOI Colonna Village on an all-inclusive basis from £1,792 per person, based on two adults and two children sharing. Includes luggage, transfers and flights from Gatwick on August 18. [easyjet.com/holidays](https://easyjet.com/holidays) ➤

# Splurge

Elix by Mar-Bella  
Collection, Greece

The dramatic, winding coastline of Epirus in mainland Greece – particularly between the peaceful harbour towns of Parga and Sivota – makes for a lesser-known alternative to Corfu, with cypress trees dotting the coast road and sea as blue as the Greek flag. The stylish Elix by Mar-Bella Collection, a five-star resort with an infinity pool looking out towards pretty Paxos, is the ideal place to soak up the natural colour palette.

For the utmost luxury, families can check in to a suite with a private pool, overlooking Karavostasi beach – or ride the hotel's private funicular directly to

“The package features a 25-minute massage, wine-tasting experience and a two-hour bike tour

the shoreline to dip their toes in the ocean. If they're staying in a suite, the all-inclusive package features a complimentary 25-minute massage, a wine-tasting experience and a two-hour bike tour.

Dining here is a cut above too. Classic Greek flavours are dished up buffet-style at Saffron: think generous ladles of tzatziki, hot fluffy

pitais, healthy grilled vegetables and nibbles of Epirus cheese. Fine dining and Italian dishes are available at Pearl and Indigo respectively, both offering beautiful terraces – perfect for watching the sun set over the Ionian Sea.

**Book it:** Olympic Holidays offers seven nights in a one-bedroom suite from £2,372 per person, based on two adults and two children sharing on an all-inclusive basis. Includes luggage, private transfers and flights from Gatwick on July 26.

**Or try:** A 45-minute drive south of Antalya in Turkey, crescent-shaped NG Phaselis Bay blends seamlessly

with its surroundings, occupying a horn-shaped headland with views of jagged mountains lining the ancient Lycian Way. There are an impressive eight pools to choose from, as well as an on-site aqua park, two private beaches (one adult-only, the other a 550-metre stretch of sand), six delicious à la carte restaurants plus an expansive spa complete with an ice fountain.

**Book it:** Classic Collection sells an all-inclusive seven-night stay from £2,332 per person, based on a family of four sharing a double or twin room with balcony. Includes transfers, luggage and flights from Gatwick departing July 27. [classic-collection.co.uk](http://classic-collection.co.uk) 