

Laura French rounds up some of the best short-haul spots to escape to this summer

t's January, which means beneath the multiple hats, scarves and coats, clients are starting to think about where to escape to come summer.

And there's no time like the present to get booking, with a host of deals available right now that could save your clients some serious bucks.

We've found some of the best for clients wanting to go all-inclusive in Europe, from limited-time discounts to bargain-bucket rates, so read on to find out where to send those after a well-earned dose of sun, sea and sand.



LABRANDA BLUE BAY BEACH RESORT, RHODES

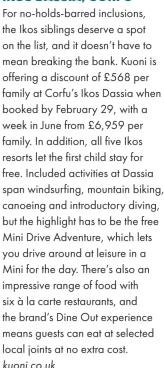
If an action-packed, family-friendly holiday by the beach floats clients' boats, Olympic Holidays suggests this resort in Greece, where seven nights' all-inclusive starts from £540 from July 14 (including flights). Three pools, a water park, tennis courts and spa are on hand to keep the brood busy, while six restaurants – including two speciality spots, buffet options and a grill house – provide plenty of variety on the dining front. Accommodation ranges from standalone bungalows dotted around the gardens to family rooms, and there's a full schedule of entertainment spanning sports days, Greek nights and live music performances, plus an idyllic location on lalyssos Beach. olympicholidays.com

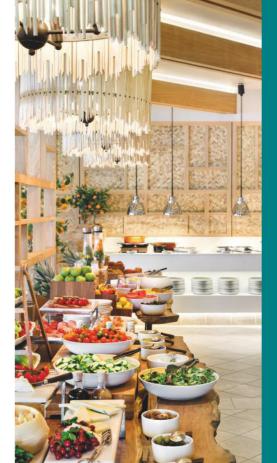


ASTERIA BODRUM RESORT, TURKEY

There's a whole host of deals to be had in Turkey. For one of the best, Jet2holidays recommends Asteria Bodrum Resort, set on the beachfront on the Turkish Riviera close to Gumbet – a fishing village turned lively beach resort set between mountains and ocean. Couples and families will find plenty to please here with several pools, waterslides, a wellness centre (complete with Turkish bath) and private beach hosting diving, snorkelling, canoeing and other watersports. Six bars and four restaurants (three à la carte) add to the appeal, with snacks and drinks served throughout the day. A week's all-inclusive costs from £719, including flights from Stansted on June 2.









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Cyplon Holidays points to this five-star, Moorish-style spot in Lanzarote for those on the hunt for a real summer bargain. "Designed for family fun, it's located in one of the most scenic parts of the island and offers great value for money," says Elena Ahmadian, marketing executive for the operator. A wide variety of pools, a kids' club, three restaurants, five bars, a full-service spa and a 5D cinema are among the draws, and there's also an adult-only complex for couples wanting some quiet time. A week with Cyplon costs from £915 departing July 29, based on two adults and one child sharing and including easyJet flights and private transfers.



Craig Davidson general manager of trade sales at Jet2holidays, offers his top tips for selling all-inclusive:

- © Encourage customers to book early. Hotels in the most popular destinations sell out fast, with prices rising as availability falls.
- Off customers are not fixed on a destination, encourage them to be open-minded about where they go. If they have their heart set on Spain, consider the Costa de Almeria or Costa Brava instead of other popular destinations, or consider dates outside peak holiday periods.
- Highlight that all-inclusive packages allow for better control over the purse strings and mean customers won't have to pay for extras in resort.
- Take advantage of low deposit schemes to secure a break at a bargain price.





TUI BLUE GRUPOTEL MAR DE MENORCA. MENORCA

The Balearics have their fair share





This sprawling spot in Belek, Antalya, has earnt itself a name among golf enthusiasts, and if you book before the end of January you can make some excellent savings. Travel 2 is offering a week in a Junior Suite from £1,259, with flights from Gatwick and private transfers, including discounts of up to £280 per person. "It's a brilliant choice for all ages, and guests can use the general facilities of all three sister hotels free of charge," says Lauren Ross, product and commercial manager for Europe. A free shuttle whisks guests between them all, where facilities span a farm, water park, kids' club, jungle play area and spa, alongside three à la carte dining venues and three golf courses. travel2.com



SANDOS SAN BLAS NATURE RESORT & GOLF. TENERIFE

There's more for golfers at this five-star resort in Tenerife, set within a nature reserve close to the beach and next to the world-class Golf del Sur resort, home to a 27-hole championship course, academy and driving range. Highlights at Sandos San Blas include eight pools, a boating lake, tennis courts, kids' club and the Magek Spa, plus 331 rooms and suites in clay-coloured buildings designed to complement the island's volcanic surroundings. Prestige Holidays is offering savings of up to £397 for bookings made by January 29; a week departing August 5 costs from £1,529 per adult and £799 per child, including flights and private transfers. prestigeholidays.co.uk





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