



Condé Nast Traveller

JULY 2013 £3.95

THE BEST HOTEL VILLAS

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Elijah Wood

★ THE BAREFOOT BEACH SECRET ★
YOU REALLY NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

Family adventures

EDITED BY
DAISY FINER

BEST FOR
4-11 YEAR
OLDS

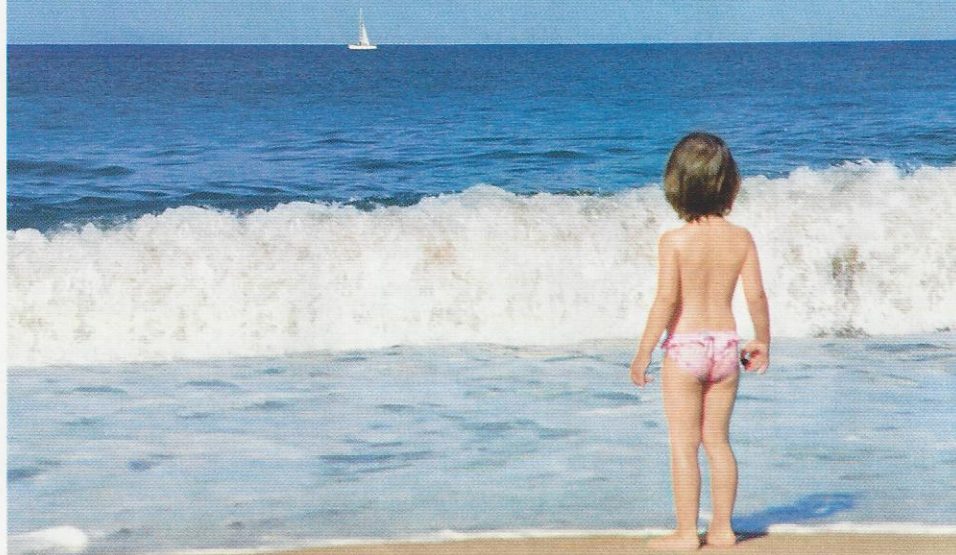
Skallerup Klit, Denmark

BESIDE A REMOTE, dune-backed beach in north-west Denmark, Skallerup Klit is where Boden meets *Borgen*. Spotlessly clean, with a pin-drop calm atmosphere, its clapboard holiday cottages are dotted across 200 acres of heather beside the North Sea and seem to be populated entirely by cheerful, sensible Danish families who get up early, play lots of sport and don't shriek at each other.

Skallerup is especially brilliant for those with children of different ages – partly because there is no childcare. Everyone is expected to holiday together. There are tables and chairs around the indoor play centre, so parents can check iPads while small offspring crash about and older children take themselves off to the bowling alley, the games room

or even the gym. But most of what's on offer has been designed to appeal to the whole crew: the giant pool area, with its 83-metre-long water chute; the tennis, squash and basketball courts; and riding sessions along miles of flat, Norfolk-esque sand on adorable Icelandic ponies. Family football matches are routine, and there's a nearby petting farm full of friendly goats. Even when the wind is blowing, an exhilarating, blustery walk hunched in a cagoule is almost obligatory.

The sense of space and remoteness here is deeply refreshing, and there's an astonishingly good spa to retreat to, its bare-brick walls convincingly designed along the lines of ancient Rome's Baths of Caracalla – and, of course, family sessions are available. ADRIAANE PIELOU



A WEEK IN A FOUR-BED SPA COTTAGE COSTS FROM ABOUT £1,290 (WWW.SKALLERUP.DK). FLY TO GOTHENBURG WITH SAS (WWW.FLYSAS.COM) AND TAKE THE FERRY TO FREDERIKSHAVN (WWW.STENALINE.CO.UK), 45 MINUTES' DRIVE FROM SKALLERUP KLIT

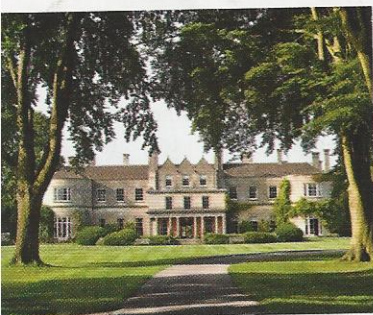


BEST FOR
LATE
TEENS

MORE FUN IN SCANDINAVIA BASECAMP

NORDENSKIÖLD, NORWAY

This is serious Shackleton stuff. Tucked into the base of a glacier in Spitsbergen, Basecamp Nordenskiöld is a true expedition cabin, with massive windows looking out on vast, rugged landscapes. Sit back on the sunny terrace and watch polar bears hunting for seals on the ice, flop in the sauna, or curl up beside the log fire and sip tea made from glacier water. It's so remote that in winter it's only accessible by snowmobile, but in summer you go by boat from the harbour at Longyearbyen. If you have a head for heights, try 'On top of Newtontoppen', a six-day dog-sledding expedition including an ascent of the highest mountain in Spitsbergen. You have to be 18 or over to take part – perfect for those about to head off to uni. www.basecampexplorer.com; Newtontoppen trip about £2,720 per person



LITTLE CHEFS

One of our favourite British hotels, Lucknam Park (great food, perky staff, gorgeous grounds) has launched new half-day kids' cookery classes for the school holidays. On the introductory course (for ages six to 10; must be accompanied by an adult) they'll learn how to knock up deliciously simple meatballs, roll fresh pasta, knead nut-and-raisin bread and create a cupcake extravaganza. Chef Hrishikesh Desai is smiley, approachable and full of tips. He won't tell you off for finger-licking either. www.lucknampark.co.uk/cookeryschool; £75 per person. Next class 8 August