



WORDS
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Seventh Heaven

Want a lavish trip away that ticks all the boxes and more?
Here's our line-up of the seven most truly spectacular
holidays to enjoy

Holidays should always be a time of joy, but sometimes you just need to go that extra mile and spend that extra pound to make the occasion extra-memorable. Here, we select the most fabulous, extravagant, unforgettable holiday packages in the world, so there's no chance of you ever saying "Where did we go again?"

Live like a King

1 As wonderful as Presidential suites are, they just don't compare to real-life palaces. Unfortunately, royal residences are usually closed to the public. Not so with this lavish package, appropriately titled 'King of the Castle', which allows lucky guests exclusive use of three of India's most fabled estates: the Lake Palace in Udaipur (the set of *Octopussy*), Umaid Bhawan Palace in Jodhpur and Rambagh Palace in Jaipur. Strut around your personal palace and try not to think about the princely price tag - or about how you'll ever go back to real life again.

PRICE: From £1,080,000 for three nights at each palace
BOOK IT: Ampersand Travel - ampersandtravel.com; 020 7819 9770



Find your own diamonds

2 If you're not yet hitched, this surely has to be one of the most excellent ways to propose. Cape Town's swanky Ellerman House has paired up with Benguela Diamonds to offer guests a diamond safari. You'll be whisked off in a limousine and private jet from Cape Town to Port Nolloth before donning your scuba gear and diving into the ocean (with dive masters, of course) to search for diamonds along the sea bed. Then, after a gourmet lunch, your diamond will be cut, set and polished into a piece of jewellery within three days. It's certainly a more memorable jewellery hunt than a stroll down Bond Street.

PRICE: £12,650 for six guests (excluding jewellery designing and manufacturing).
BOOK IT: Ellerman House - ellerman.co.za; +27 21 430 3200





luxury living to the next level. Throwing out the idea that Maldives residences need to have thatched roofs and traditional designs, the enormous Miami-meets-Maldives beachfront estate is the perfect party venue, with a rooftop terrace, an Instagram-worthy swimming pool, cinema rooms, spa room and gym, and pool and tennis tables. For a monumental sum, you can have this villa to yourself for a week, including return first class flights, daily spa treatments, private seaplane transfers and much more.

PRICE: From £173,200
BOOK IT: Cleveland Collection - clevelandcollection.co.uk;
 020 7843 3531



Maldivian moments

3 It might appear impossible for the Maldives to be anything less than lavish, but the Amilla Villa Estate, on the upmarket island of Amilla Fushi, takes



Truly luxurious jet setting

4 Once you've been to one Peninsula Hotel, you'll want to visit them all – and now you can, with ease (and serious style points). The chic hotel brand have partnered up



with Crystal to present the ultra-luxe Crystal AirCruise, which, over 27 days, will see lucky guests flying on a luxurious private jet from New York to Paris and stopping in 10 marvellous cities (and 10 marvellous Peninsula Hotels) on the way. With short but sweet stays at the properties in New York, Chicago, Beverly Hills, Tokyo, Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Manila, Bangkok and Paris, and with tailor-made experiences in each city, it's a grand tour like no other.

PRICE: From £130,754 per person
BOOK IT: Crystal - crystalaircruises.com;
 020 7399 7601





Whoa, we're going to Ibiza

5 If you ever feel that your talents have been wasted and that you should have been a DJ, here's the package for you. Luxury Ibiza rental firm Chic Ibiza Villas and private jet company PrivateFly have launched the ultimate in swanky party packages: for a hefty price tag, you can fly to the island on your own jet, call a luxury Ibiza villa your own, rent an 89 foot yacht, get private DJ lessons, enjoy plenty of gourmet meals and VIP tables and even experience an in-villa clubbing night with Pacha's resident DJ spinning the decks just for you. You'll be exhausted by the time you flop on to your private jet for the journey home - but that's Ibiza...

PRICE: £100,000 for eight people for a week
BOOK IT: Private Fly - privatefly.com; 01747 642777



Caribbean delight

6 Jetsetters in the know have long flocked to the delightful Jumby Bay - the 300-acre private island just two miles north of Antigua with a mixture of villas, suites and estates - but its most unexplored pleasure is the newly-opened Pure Turquoise estate home. With direct access to the beach, a colonial architectural style and sea views from each of its stylish cottages, the estate also has a croquet court, gym, tennis court, an infinity pool and even comes with a full-time chef, housekeeper and butler. All that's left to worry about is enjoying the Caribbean sunshine.

PRICE: From \$304,000 +12.5% tax for an eight night stay
BOOK IT: Jumby Bay - rosewoodhotels.com; +1 268 462 6000



Totally private

7 A holiday to the Maldives is always divine, but if you're bothered by the presence of other people – despite the quiet privacy of your overwater villa, the long stretches of uninterrupted sand and the total silence at night – there's a way to nab a paradisaical island all for yourself. Velaa Private Island, one of the Maldives' most luxurious private islands, can be all yours, as long as you don't mind spending \$1 million for the privilege. Plus, there's room for 142 guests, so if you're feeling generous, you could even fly out all your friends and family to share your very own deserted idyll.

PRICE: \$1 million for a minimum of four nights on a B&B basis

BOOK IT: Velaa Private Island – velaaprivateisland.com; +960 6565 000

