

TATLER

SEPTEMBER £4.10

CLASH OF THE TITANS:
ROTHSCHILD vs
GOLDSMITH: WHICH
CAMP ARE YOU IN?

THE 50
DREAMIEST
RETREATS
TO BOOK NOW

ALL THE
CLOTHES
YOU'LL
NEED THIS
WINTER

HOW TO
MARRY A
BILLIONAIRE

Cindy!



FAT TAILER



Edited by ISSY VON SIMSON *and* MELINDA STEVENS

PRIVATE ESCAPES

Wouldn't it be completely awesome if somebody just whipped together a list of the prettiest, loveliest, smartest, coolest houses to rent, all over the world? From the ones you need at your fingertips right now (the British weekend cottages and the villas in the Med) to the ones you don't even know you want yet, but you will (a little Goan colonial number or a Canadian heli-skiing whopper). So here it is. Ta-dah! The most unbelievably helpful feature you will read this month – in fact, probably this year. These are the crash pads that will actually make your holiday feel like a holiday. Please cut it out and keep it, every page. Pin it to the fridge. Staple it to your son's forehead. Tattoo it up your arm. Hiring a house can be a gamble, so we've taken away the risk and tried the very best, you lucky, lucky people...

SULUWILO HOUSE, VAMIZI, MOZAMBIQUE



CASTELLO DI RESCHIO PERUGIA, ITALY

This is a totally tranquil pocket of Perugia that's all yours – 2,700 acres of poetic Umbrian countryside with woodlands, fishing lakes, an equestrian centre, its own fairytale castle and a proper count, Antonio Bolza, at the helm. When he bought the estate nearly 20 years ago, the rolling hillsides were scattered with crumbling old farmhouses that, one by one, with his interior-designer wife and architect son, he has painstakingly restored. Now they are things of great beauty, with 10 houses to cherry-pick from. Villa Belvedere was the first to be renovated and is set atop a hill with spectacular views and jaw-droppingly beautiful gardens full of Ali Baba pots, rosemary-laden borders, terraces and loggias. It's a clever combination of grandeur and quirky charm – perfectly chosen antiques offset by frescoed walls with painted insects, terracotta tiles and swags of silk. There's an osteria – charming, intimate, relaxed – but if you can't be bothered to leave your villa or poolside, chef Marco will deliver straight from his kitchen to yours. A turbo-smart Italian holiday. **Sleeps 12 (in Villa Belvedere) Book it Seven nights from £17,710 (reschio.com or 00 39 075 844 362).**



SAN LORENZO MOUNTAIN LODGE

DOLOMITES, ITALY

The Dolomites are where the smart people go to ski, to spa and to feast on the blissfully bilingual grub (the German influence brings sticky strudels). Lovingly spruced up by Giorgia and Stefano Barbini, this former

hunting lodge, perched at 1,200 metres in the Val Pusteria, sleeps six big bears in Alpine-chic bedrooms and four little ones in a Goldilocks bunkroom. The Barbini enlivened the worn timber, stone and slate interiors, pairing them with locally sourced wooden furniture and awesome materials – woollen cushions, rabbit and cashmere throws, blankets handmade from wolf and coyote skin. It's cutesy and rustic but underfloor heating, finger-clicking-fast wi-fi and shiny, slick bathrooms bring it bang up to speed. **Sleeps 10 Book it Bellini Travel offers seven nights from £16,185 (bellinitravel.com or 020 7602 7602).**



VILLA GELLA RHODOPE MOUNTAINS, BULGARIA

From the chocolate-box riverside village of Shiroka Laka, you wind high into the mountains, past wildflower meadows, tiny hamlets and isolated chapels. And at the top is this handsome highland retreat. Crash out on the sunny terrace, swim lengths of the gleaming indoor pool and tuck into fresh butter, milk and yogurt from the neighbour's cow, and splendid wines from the family's own award-winning vineyard. It's a place where the air is pure, the views are spectacular and the only sound is the sound of silence. **Sleeps 12 Book it Seven nights from £7,200 (villagella.com or 00 359 888 566 872). EasyJet flies to Sofia from £29 (easyjet.com).**

BLACK BARN RIVERSIDE LODGE HAWKE'S BAY, NEW ZEALAND

Leave the thrillseekers to their own devices on the South Island and head north for a slower pace. On the edge of the meandering Tuki Tuki river is this beauty of a barn, where stout beams criss-cross the raked-timber ceilings, heavy doors keep out fearsome winds and gigantic windows draw in the external colours (at dawn the mountain range is a fiery blaze of red and gold). In the sitting room, a fireplace, fed from a hidey-hole stuffed with chopped logs, draws you close, magnet-like, and sideboards are crammed with wine. And relax... **Sleeps Eight Book it Seven nights from £5,460 (blackbarn.com or 011 64 6877 7985).**