

TravelLuxury

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to a frothy turquoise sea. What makes it so special, though, is its built-in sense of fun. There is a cricket umpire's hut on the lawn, a split-level infinity pool, a second pool accessed by a water slide hidden within the landscaping and a six-bunk den for youngsters. Follow the sound of the sea down through the grounds to a wild, golden beach that is usually yours alone.

Details From £282pp/£846pp for 18 (edenvillas.com). Fly to Colombo

13 HALKIDIKI EST, GREECE

Part Greek temple, part mega-yacht, this newly built designer villa, on an unspoilt promontory in Halkidiki, could easily pass for a Bond villain's lair. Doric columns and minimalist lines combine with serene spaces, including a chill-out room with backlit walls sculpted to look like waves. A gentle push of the wraparound sliding glass doors takes you outside to the 120 sq m pool and a terrace overlooking a private section of pale golden sand, kitted out with kayaks and paddleboards. Be in the hot tub before dusk to see the sun set behind Mount Olympus.

Details From £950pp/£3,000pp for ten (fivestargreece.com). Fly to Thessaloniki

14 LA NAVA DEL BARRANCO, SPAIN

It's deep in Don Quixote country, but there's nothing old-school about this

