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Cover story

Best for families

Many families heading to the Caribbean opt to hole up in a beachfront all-inclusive hotel with a panoply of facilities. However, there are other options worth considering, including villas, apartments, cruises and adventurous tours. With children, it's sensible to minimise flying time, so all the following suggestions can be reached on direct flights from the UK. In this section, unless otherwise stated, prices are the lowest available for seven nights for a family of four sharing the cheapest suitable accommodation, including economy flights and transfers. They are based on travel with pre-school children, aged two and four, in November (low season); and travelling with pre-teens (aged eight and 10) and teenagers (14 and 16) in the school summer holidays.

With teenagers

Jakes, Jamaica

It's a long (2½-hour) transfer from Montego Bay to **Jakes** (telegraph.co.uk/tt-jakes-jamaica) at Treasure Beach, a fishing and farming community on Jamaica's south coast. But teenagers should love this rustic-chic property, with its informal vibe and distinctly funky look – you stay in cottages quirkily decorated with shells, coloured glass and mosaic tiles. The dining options include jerk pizzas at Jack Sprat, and among the excursions that are on offer are boat trips to Pelican Bar, perched on a sandbar out to sea.

● Steppes Travel (0843 778 9926; steppetravel.co.uk), £5,800 room only in a two-bedroom cottage over February half term.