

TRAVEL + LEISURE

Nantucket

Corsica

Alaska

New Zealand

Escapes

Spain

Greek Islands

Mexico



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WHY RENT A VILLA IN...

TUSCANY

> Unless you're planning to while away days at the spa, renting a house in Tuscany is one of travel's great no-brainers, particularly for families. On your own countryside estate, there's no need to worry about hard-to-find connecting rooms and raucous toddlers disturbing strangers at the pool. To make the most of your proximity to the vineyards, though, set a strategy for the kids before you arrive.

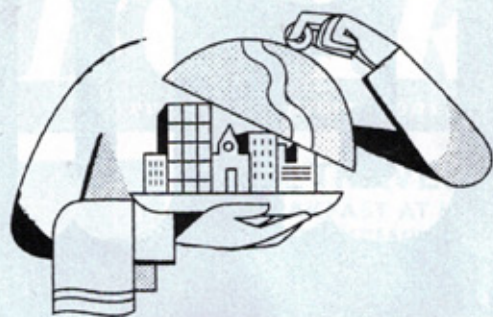
"Italians don't have the same culture of childcare as we do," explains Mara Solomon, of villa agency *HomeBase Abroad*. A babysitter is just as likely to be your villa owner's non-English-speaking niece as a trained professional.

Agents like Solomon and Cédric Reversade, of *Unique Properties & Events*, will help you keep calm and drink on. Reversade maintains a Rolodex of vetted nannies with spotless testimonials; he also coordinates horseback rides and tiramisu-making lessons for children, while adults get private tours of ascendant vineyards like Tenuta di Valgiano, a biodynamic producer near Lucca.

To keep everyone under one roof, Solomon also invites sommeliers to her villas for guided poolside wine tastings. If all else fails, do as the locals do: bring the kids along on nights out. "I have seen Italian kids asleep in the piazza at one a.m. while their parents finish dinner," Solomon chuckles.

T•L'S TOP LISTINGS Villa Gattopardo (shown): A 16th-century castle near Montalcino. Sleeps 14. carpediemtravel.co.uk; from \$29,400 per week.

The Tettaia Residence: A kid-friendly three-bedroom near Siena's Piazza del Campo. Sleeps 5. kidandco.com; from \$170 per night.



Luxury at a Click

Three new ways to find five-star rentals, fast.

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AIRBNB

for endless variety

The titan of home sharing now has more than 40,000 castles, villas, and private islands up for grabs—with more to come. (Find them by using the "property type" filter.) It also has a growing number of penthouse apartments, including a sprawling loft in New York City that once served as a recording studio for the Police. airbnb.com.

LE COLLECTIONIST

for white-glove service

With pied-à-terres and villas mostly in European hubs and Alpine ski towns, this company connects guests with personal concierges who can arrange extravagant experiences like on-demand massages—or, in one case, a private violin concert for renters of a slopeside chalet in Courchevel, France. lecollectionist.com.

ONEFINESTAY

for affordable luxury

Among the perks of this site's homes: fine linens, iPhones with local data plans, and 24/7 assistance. Its portfolio is limited to a handful of residences in London, Paris, New York, Los Angeles, and Rome. But it's notable for offering impeccable design and serious value—a brocade-filled one-bedroom in Paris's Trocadéro goes for \$188 per night. onefinestay.com.

Palais Bulles, a Le Collectionist property in Cannes, France.



DID YOU KNOW? > Many hotels, including the Four Seasons Costa Rica or Vail's Arrabelle, have villas on property—with amenities like spa access and turndown service.