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4 of the best vacation villas to rent this summer

Definitely the next best option to having your own holiday home.



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Everyone needs a place in the sun and arguably the ideal choice would be your very own vacation home. Coming in close second is a luxurious private villa rental, preferably in an exotic locale. Offering the conveniences of a five-star hotel but with infinitely more space and privacy, here are four that go a step further in fulfilling your summer fantasies.



La Réserve Ramatuelle, South of France

Often, the greatest luxuries are intangibles such as time and space – something that's in abundance at La Réserve Ramatuelle (<http://www.lareserve-ramatuelle.com/en/>). All of its 14 villas – two of which just opened this month – are built in keeping with its Mediterranean location (just a stone's throw away from St. Tropez), featuring terracotta tiles and white walls that infuse it with a warm, homely ambience. Overlooking the sea and enveloped in greenery, I say it's the perfect place to indulge in *il dolce far niente*.



Hartland Estate, Bali

Hartland Estate (<http://www.hartlandestate.com/>) ticks all the boxes in terms of amenities – outdoor bathrooms, a gorgeous infinity pool, traditional Balinese design touches – but there’s even more to this 66,000sqft property. Perched on Ubud’s picturesque Sayan Ridge, the estate offers four different accommodation types each with its own charming character. What ties them all together is their special soulful quality, setting them apart from the anonymous, cookie-cutter villas elsewhere on the island. In a place as commercial as Bali, Hartland Estate is an authentic retreat where you can truly find peace.



Cheval Blanc Randheli, Maldives

If privacy is the priority, then few can compete with the ultra-exclusive Owner's Villa at Cheval Blanc Randheli (<http://randheli.chevalblanc.com/en>) – a playground for tycoons and royalty alike (the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge visited in 2014). Located on its own island, the Jean Michel Gathy-designed villa is the epitome of modern tropical design with 7-metre high ceilings and elegant, neutral hued furnishings, which form the canvas for your luxe vacation. From having a dedicated *majordome* to your own private spa, they're set up to cater to your every whim and bound to exceed your highest expectations.



Samujana, Koh Samui

Samujana (<http://www.samujana.com/>) is already on the radar for discerning holidaymakers from Hong Kong, being just a short flight away from the city. The existing villas are noted for the sleek architecture, contemporary interiors and, of course, the killer infinity pool. They're upping the ante even more so with the launch of Villa 24 this July – the biggest and boldest one on offer. Spanning almost 20,000sqft, the new villa features almost double the space (there are 8 bedrooms) complemented with the same meticulous service Samujana is known for.

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Images courtesy of La Réserve Ramatuelle and Samujana.
Photos of Hartland Estate and Cheval Blanc Randheli from the Home Journal Archive.