

20 of the best family-friendly places to stay

Our readers seem to be big fans of hip hideaway specialist i-escape, voted Best Online Booking Service in our Travel Awards 2011. Here, the website's associate editor picks 20 of her favourite boutique family hotels

Laura Dixon
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You and your children will love the Hotel Esencia in Mexico. Photograph: Getty Images

Hotel Esencia, Mexico



This 30-room hotel on a pure white beach near Playa del Carmen in the Yucatan gets a serious thumbs-up from parents as well as their kids. Decorated with a glorious fusion of Caribbean colours, Mayan heritage and sleek modernity, it serves perfect margaritas and sublime ceviche from its excellent restaurant, as well as having a popular kids' menu. The two-bedroom cottages and garden suites are spacious, and as well as the main pool, kids' pool and nearby beach, there are children's yoga and cookery classes, and specialist chocolate spa treatments for kids. That's what we call going the extra mile.

• Garden suites from £390 a night B&B, sleeping three, i-escape.com/hotelesencia.php

For the full collection go to i-escape.com/kids