

30 amazing family holidays for 2021

From forest holidays in Britain to surfing in Canada, here are 30 adventures to banish the lockdown blues

By *Laura Fowler and Henry Jones*

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Of all the things that have been damaged in the past 10 months, it is the shrinking of the concept of “family” that many have found the most upsetting. What existed, a short while ago, as a frequent mingling of ages and generations, has, in plenty of cases, been reduced to Zoom windows and remote conversations. The babble of children with grandparents, the catching up with siblings, reminiscences with relatives – much has been boxed up and pushed into a virtual world that feels a wan substitute for normality.

The upside of this is that, when restrictions finally lift, the sense of reunion, and the joy of it all, will be inescapable. There will be tears, there will be parties and there will be travel, as families make up for lost time with days and weeks together in the sunshine. When you have spent a year mostly cooped up inside, the horizon will look more alluring than ever.

When? That is the thornier question. Not right away, certainly, with the virus still dogging our heels and pandemic travel restrictions closing off holidays until the spring at least. But with the vaccine rollout picking up pace, the gloom should disperse as 2021 forges a better path than its predecessor. Many of those paths will lead to the beach.

19. Safari plus

Lepogo Lodge's stylish Noka Camp in South Africa, opened a year ago, is sustainable, zero-footprint and not-for-profit. Recently, it started hosting a programme of cultural activities for children to complement safaris: treasure hunts, baking, pottery, jewellery making and painting; boating, fishing and swimming in the Palala river; and trips to an Iron Age site in the mountains.

From R16,500 (£732)pp per night, all-inclusive (lepogolodges.com).

