



Best for Families

Sand, snacks, and sanity savers: beach stays that thrill kids and restore adults.

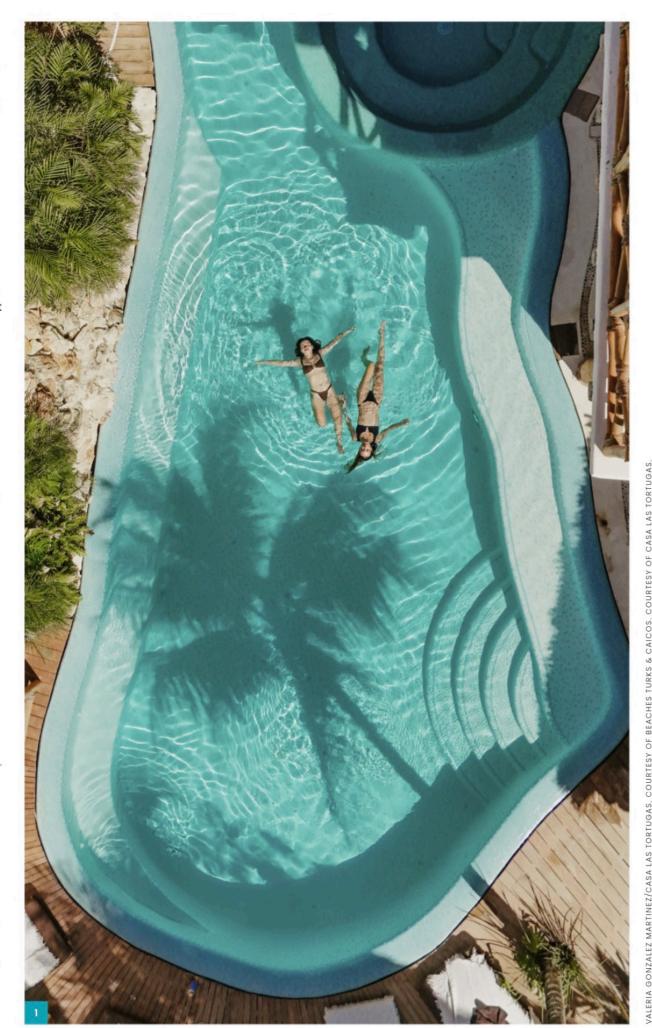
Beaches **Turks & Caicos**

Providenciales, **Turks and Caicos** A rare "something for everyone" escape that actually delivers. Set on Grace Bay's calm, swimmable waters, this all-inclusive megaresort packs in wins for every age: a pirate-themed water park, 10 spa treatments specifically for kids and teens, Sesame Street meetand-greets, and a complimentary Kids Camp for babies through teens. Parents of neurodivergent travelers get added peace of mind: Beaches was the first resort company to earn IBCCES autism certification, with trained staff and inclusive programming baked into every stay. And coming in spring 2026: Treasure Beach, a \$150 million expansion that adds 101 multibedroom family suites, a 15,000-square-foot pool, food hall-style dining, and a 32-seat cinema. beaches.com/

Casa las Tortugas

turksandcaicos

Isla Holbox, Mexico After a 2022 fire, this family-run favorite was rebuilt from the ground up-same boho soul, fresh bones-on a powdery-soft strand of Isla Holbox. Tortugas 2.0 has mezcal tastings, a beer garden, and a Tropicália-chic boutique; recovery-focused treatments and experiences and a new padel court are in the works. The 30-room resort



welcomes guests ages 12 and up, and teens will love the independence: kiteboarding at the water-sports club, filming TikToks by the pool, and strolling barefoot into the car-free town for ice cream and churros. Book the beachfront casita for four with a private infinity pool and direct sandbar access. holboxcasa lastortugas.com

Lighthouse **Oceanfront Resort**

Long Beach,

Washington The 28-mile Long Beach Peninsula hosts the **Washington State** International Kite Festival, billed as North America's largest, each August-so, yes, it's an excellent place to fly a kite. Or go tide pooling and razor clamming. Or bike to the cliff-top lighthouses of Cape Disappointment State Park. The homey suites and cottages at this no-fuss family resort sit along the dunes, but you've got cover when gusty Pacific weather rolls in: a heated indoor saline pool, a barrel sauna, a tennis center, and six pickleball courts. lighthouseresort.net

Wave Resort Long Branch,

New Jersey

This 67-room oceanfront hotel near Pier Village has a pool deck with cabanas and a seasonal swim-up bar, so you can referee cannonballs with a frozen drink in hand. For youngsters, there are s'mores by the fire pits and Hula-Hoop contests to burn off the wiggles. For parents: a fullservice spa, wine-andbeer hour three nights a week, and Soya by Salt, a new Asian-fusion spot with pastrami egg rolls

and a live DJ. Nostalgia beckons just beyond the gate with the Pier Village carousel, a seaside arcade, mini golf, and the Pier Pins bowling alley. Borrow the resort's complimentary beach cruisers for boardwalk laps or go full GTL: gelato, taffy, legend status (with your kids, anyway). waveresort.com

Wild Dunes Resort Isle of Palms,

South Carolina If a child planned a beach vacation, it would look like the Turtle Cove family fun center at Wild Dunes, with its build-aboat experiences, sandcastle competitions, and movie nights. If that same kid's parents planned it, the holiday would include everything else at this 1,600acre barrier-island playground 15 miles from Charleston: 2.5 miles of coastline, a renowned tennis

1 Casa las Tortugas is the kind of place that keeps family front and center, while never letting you forget your younger, wilder self. 2 The elegant Caribbean design of Beaches Turks & Caicos reminds us that family-friendly can also be sexy and chic

3 The newly renovated haute Bohemian room design at Casa la Tortugas utilizes natural materials striking just the right balance of luxury and laidback comfort.

center, a Tom Fazio golf course, and condostyle suites with full kitchens and washers/ dryers. Multiple pools and a splash pad keep swimmers of all ages busy; eco-tours to Boneyard Beach and kid-friendly golf clinics round out the mix. wilddunesresort.com

OKANA Resort & Indoor Waterpark Oklahoma City,

Oklahoma Opened in early 2025 by the Chickasaw Nation, this \$400 million resort is a game changer for



fourth-largest pool in the nation. The 4.5-acre lagoon complex features an inflatable obstacle course, adultsonly swim-up bars, and foam parties that will blow your little ones' minds. Inside, the 100,000-square-foot water park has a wave pool, water coaster, surf simulator, and lazy river. Towel off, grab a ballpark-style frank from Curveball Kitchen or a decadent milkshake at OKANA Candy Co., then hit the family entertainment center for a mirror maze, escape room, and laser tag. Though built for family fun, this is the rare resort with cultural cred: Indigenous art is showcased throughout

andlocked Oklahoma-

home to an impressive

inland beach and the



the 404-room hotel

(including a Chickasaw-

curated gallery), and the

walk to the excellent First

resort is a four-minute

Americans Museum.

okanaresort.com