

A gem of a find

The joy of Le Jardin des Douars, set within lush terraced gardens, in hills filled with Argan trees outside Essaouira, Morocco, is that it feels romantic and stylish yet is perfectly suited to families. There is the option of two pools, so you can relax while your children make as much noise as they want to in the child-friendly one, or you can make the most of the babysitting service and head to the adult-only infinity pool. The food is good – a mix of French and Moroccan – and there is a children's menu. The husband and wife team who manage the hotel have two small children themselves, so your little ones' every need will be thought of – including bottle warmers, baby baths and the like. The kitchen team will even make wholesome purées. For older children there is plenty to do, from quad-biking in the dunes to mini-massages in the spa. Essaouira is close, so you can nip in for an hour or two, spend the day there, or get a hotel babysitter and stay for dinner too – we recommend Elziz restaurant in Rue de Agadir. Family rooms (two adults, two children) from £124 B&B. 00-212-5 2447 4003, jardindesdouars.com



BABY STEPS

Family-orientated website Travel Unwrapped, which launched in October featuring more than 250 luxury hotels in Europe and the UK that make families feel welcome, is generously sharing its insider tips for young ones travelling to Europe's best-loved cities through a series of walks designed especially for children. Appropriately named Little Footsteps, the gentle walks include a hidden gelateria and a toy store in Rome selling handcrafted wooden toys, a shop filled with childhood memorabilia in Barcelona and a quirky 'kindercafe' in Berlin. The walks are available as part of Travel Unwrapped's downloadable city guides, available at travel-unwrapped.com



GAME ON

For those with a budding tennis, football or rugby pro in the family, Forte Village Resort in Sardinia should be a consideration when planning your summer break. The 47-hectare, beachfront resort's renowned summer sports academies are open to children from five to 16 (and age four to 13 for junior tennis) and offer professional coaching from stars of tennis, football and rugby. Coaches for 2017 to be announced. *Sardatur Holidays offers seven nights' half-board at Forte Village from £3,501 per family, based on two adults and two children sharing a deluxe family room, with flights and transfers. 020-8973 2296; sardatur-holidays.co.uk*



GREECE IS THE WORD

Perennial family favourite Sani Resort in Greece offers even greater choice for families with the launch this month (April) of its new two- and three-bedroom luxury family suites at Sani Beach Club and Sani Asterias Suites. Each have the option of a private pool and accommodate five to seven people. *Elegant Resorts offers seven nights' half-board from £4,910 per family based on two adults and three children sharing a two-bedroom family suite, including flights, transfers and UK lounge passes. 01244-897538; elegantresorts.co.uk*