

itravel

Some travellers assume the taxpayer will come to the rescue **Simon Calder, p61**



ISLE OF SHEPPEY KENT

The peaceful Isle of Sheppey (an hour from London) is home to 3,200 acres of salt marsh, where lapwing, barn owls and thousands of wading birds live.

These exquisite shepherds' huts are right in the middle, with walls of glass to soak up the incredible panoramas. There are al fresco showers or baths – so romantic – and breakfast can be delivered to your door. Just being here will nourish the soul. **Each sleeps two to four, from £115, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/hidden-hideaways-kent**

Autumn boltholes

New website kiphideaways.com is a collection of stylish, under-the-radar British retreats without hefty price tags. Founder **Liz Simpson** offers an exclusive look at what's in store

NR RYE EAST SUSSEX

This little round house is tucked away in an ancient chestnut woodland. You're completely alone, but for the odd badger bumbling by. A king-size bed faces a picture window, an al fresco hot tub bubbles away, and there's a fire pit to cosy up around after dark. Ask the owners for organic meat and seasonal vegetables to barbecue and hide from the world for a while.

Sleeps two plus a child, from £145, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/east-sussex-woodland-escape



ST IVES CORNWALL

This romantic apartment may be bijou but it is absolutely gorgeous, its white-and-gold palette splashed with sunlight, and a little balcony gazing out to sea. The owners spent months sourcing the mid-century furniture and quirky modern furnishings, which include Ercolani pebble tables and a Haus Schmidt floor lamp. Great restaurants are all around and sunsets on Porthmeor Beach are magical. **Sleeps two, from £82, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/st-ives-seaview-studio**



ST MARY'S ISLES OF SCILLY

All who visit the Scillies rave about their natural beauty: deserted white-sand beaches, clear turquoise seas, coastal paths lined with subtropical flowers. The largest isle, easygoing St Mary's, is home to an enchanting shepherd's hut, hidden in a secret garden behind a stream. Inside, it is loaded with style. You can hire bikes from the owner, and local stores will deliver fresh seafood and seasonal vegetables to your door. **Sleeps two, from £95, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/scilly-isles-escape**



ROECLIFFE NORTH YORKSHIRE

Part of an idyllic 1,000-acre farm, these luxury shepherd's huts are surrounded by waving golden wheat and the greenest of fields. You can walk and cycle to a pub and beyond. Interiors are chic and indulgent – underfloor heating, king-size beds, outdoor hot tubs. Stay in the new Iglu Hut and you can even stargaze from your bed through a curved overhead window. **Each sleeps two, from £135, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/north-yorkshire-farm-huts**



More autumn boltholes >>

AUTUMN BOLTHOLES

NR CROYDE NORTH DEVON

This magical little hideaway sits in acres of oak woodland, with only wildlife for company. It's entirely off-grid, but there's no sense of roughing it: rustic-chic interiors include a hot shower and cosy double bed. And unless you stroll to the local pub, all you'll hear is owls as dusk falls. **Sleeps two to four, from £110, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/north-devon-hideaway**

MELROSE BORDERS

This new cottage sits in 500 acres of hills and forest. It's a place to immerse yourself in the beauty of the Borders – yet it is just four miles from pretty Melrose. Interiors are stunning: a panelled sitting room and beautiful bathroom, with a tub positioned to soak up the views. **Sleeps two, from £100, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/lochside-bolthole**



RYE EAST SUSSEX

This quirky little apartment overlooking Lion Street pays homage to its seaside setting. There is a wall of gold plates embossed with ships, even curtained cabin beds for the kids. Spend your days exploring Rye's cobbled streets then return to play rummy in the light-filled lounge. **Sleeps two to four, from £100, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/rye-bolthole**

NR REETH YORKSHIRE DALES

This gorgeous, tiny house perches in the middle of nowhere, surrounded by the breathtaking Yorkshire Dales. With pure peace and no mobile reception or Wi-Fi, it's a total escape from everyday life – and with such stylish interiors, it is a joy to hole up here. Hike or cycle across dramatic moorland then cosy up by the firepit. **Sleeps two, from £95, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/yorkshire-hideaway**

CAMARTHENSHIRE SOUTH-WEST WALES

This luxury yurt is a super-romantic place to simply "be". It's hidden in a woodland in rural Camarthenshire. As for the yurt, it's a cut above almost every other glampsite, with solid-wood flooring, a double shower, even a hot tub under the stars. **Sleeps two, from £85, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/south-west-wales-escape**



ROMNEY MARSH KENT

It'll come as no surprise that the owner of this little grey house is an interiors stylist. From the weather-boarded exterior to the boho-chic furnishings, every square foot is gorgeous. The Art Deco bathroom is outstanding. Relax and admire it all or day-trip to Camber Sands and stroll to the village pub. Time will fly. **Sleeps two to four, from £140, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/romney-march-retreat**

BLACKDOWN SOMERSET

This romantic shepherd's hut offers luxury in a field. There are furnishings by British designers and an al fresco bathtub. Views stretch over the Blackdown Hills and countryside paths lead right from your door. There is also a local pub for an excellent dinner, followed by a moonlit stroll back. **Sleeps two, from £145, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/blackdown-glamping**



EXMOOR DEVON

The owner hand-built this beautiful cedar cabin. It sits in its own field looking over Exmoor, without a neighbour in sight. There are two double bedrooms and a gorgeous open-plan living area, but you'll spend lots of time outdoors – in the wood-fired hot tub and around the firebowl. **Sleeps two to four, from £125, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/secret-exmoor-cabin**

THE WOLDS EAST YORKSHIRE

A great base for cycling and walking in the East Yorkshire Wolds or just a restorative adults-only break: these charming shepherd's huts offer both. There are soft robes for your private hot tub, and breakfast is included. A quirky shared kitchen with an honesty bar and pizza oven adds to the charm. **Each sleeps two, from £120, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/east-yorkshire-glamping**

DARTMOOR DEVON

So this is why people go off-grid for a break. No tech, no stress, just two acres of woodland hiding two, rustic-luxe, eco cabins. You'll see wildlife instead of commuters – dragonflies, buzzards, even kingfishers. Owner Jo can point you to wild swimming spots on Dartmoor and stunning Cornish beaches. Or just swing in a hammock and read. **Both cabins sleep two to four, from £90, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/dartmoor-hideaways**



NR ROBERTSBRIDGE EAST SUSSEX
There are 32 types of wildflower in the meadows that surround this gorgeous little hideaway. Not to mention 40 acres of woodland and sparkling ponds, full of wildlife. This quirky cabin-on-wheels is equally enchanting, brand new and handcrafted, with a king-size bed facing bifold doors. Watch the sun rise and set without even getting up, or from your hot tub, it's impossibly romantic. **Sleeps two plus two children, from £145, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/east-sussex-meadow-escape**



TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK LOCH LOMOND

Trossachs National Park is breathtaking: shimmering lochs, deep green glens and snow-topped mountains. And at the heart of it all, this secret off-shoot of an acclaimed hotel: a revamped ferry waiting room and architect-designed bothy. Interiors are quirkily stylish. The cosy bedroom has a double and two full-size bunks, and the colourful living area is warmed by a wood burner. **Sleeps two to four, from £140, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/loch-lomond-escape**



NR PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE

Skye is a photographer's dream. Wild and rugged, its dramatic landscapes mix jagged mountains, lochs, glens and black-pebbled beaches. This stunning cottage is a romantic counterbalance, all light, modern minimalism. It's remote yet a great base for the island, 10 minutes' drive from the capital, Portree, and a peaceful stroll from Camustianavaig Bay. **Sleeps two, from £95, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/isle-of-skye-retreat**



KINGSBRIDGE DEVON

This stunning house was converted from an old brewery, with concrete floors, a cool, cantilevered staircase and vintage rugs. Come with another couple (there are two king-size bedrooms). The town buzzes with restaurants and spectacular beaches are a 10-minute drive away. **Sleeps four, from £750 per week, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/kingsbridge-hideaway**



NR BRENEY NATURE RESERVE CORNWALL

This gorgeous rustic-chic cabin is in the middle of Cornwall. Alone in a meadow with views stretching for miles, you can spend your time reading on the deck, walking in nearby Breney Nature Reserve, and remembering how good it feels not to be in a hurry. There's a mezzanine double bed if you want to bring little ones, but it's so romantic, we'd leave them with Granny. **Sleeps two to four, from £100, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/secret-cornish-den**

DEBEN VALLEY SUFFOLK

Surrounded by wildflower meadows, this hand-crafted shepherd's hut is all about romance. It's set in a private orchard that twinkles with fairy lights after dark – if you can't be bothered to cook, the owner can provide homemade moussaka and crumble with fruit from the farm. Glorious walks are on your doorstep or borrow bikes and cycle to the pub. **Sleeps two, from £75, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/suffolk-shepherd-hut**



MENDIPS WEST COUNTRY Utterly unique, this restored chapel is now the coolest contemporary hideaway. An ancient pulpit and heavy candelabra somehow blend beautifully with cowskin stools; there's also a gorgeous inky-blue kitchen, emerald-tiled bathroom and two king-size bedrooms. Walk in the Mendips, day-trip to Bristol, or play the original organ; the acoustics are superb. **Sleeps four, from £150, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/west-country-escape**

NR FIRLE SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK

You'll be drawn to this 400-year-old barn because of its characterful stone walls and gorgeous interiors, but it's the setting that will blow you away. South Downs National Park is a glorious wave of grassy hills, golden hay fields and chalky clifftops – and this hideaway is right in the middle. **Sleeps two, from £90, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/south-downs-national-park-escape**



LYME REGIS WEST DORSET

Lovers of vintage design will adore this cosy studio, set in an acre of rambling gardens a short hop from the Jurassic Coast. There is a simple kitchenette for self-catering and a private deck with barbecue, but you might rather walk along the pretty riverside path into Lyme Regis for a slap-up dinner at Hix Oyster House. **Sleeps two, from £85, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/lyme-regis-hideaway**



Visit kiphideaways.com to get the "real name" and direct booking links for each property. Membership is £10 a year/£199 a month, but if you sign up in 2019 you'll get a whole year free.

ST IVES CORNWALL

There are many apartments in St Ives, but this blows away the competition. Just for two, it combines the creative heritage of the town with unique mid-century décor. We adore the 50s velvet cocktail chair, quirky art and bold emerald tiling; every detail exudes style. And once you have explored the town's winding lanes and golden beaches, there is a private botanical garden for balmy evenings and al fresco breakfasts. **Sleeps two, from £82, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/st-ives-garden-studio**



SNOWDONIA NORTH-WEST WALES

An inspirational off-grid experience, these six treehouses blend into an ancient woodland on the edge of Snowdonia National Park. Spaced apart for privacy, they are fairy tale-like, with spiral stairs winding up to your larch-clad living pod. Step inside and you will be equally charmed by rustic-luxe interiors. Kids will be in heaven – leaving you free to sit on the deck in peace. **Each sleeps two plus two kids, from £190, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/snowdonia-treehouses**

AUTUMN BOLTHOLES

NR DOVEDALE PEAK DISTRICT

In the 1800s, this barn was part of the village pub. Though the beams and original shutters remain, the barrels have been replaced by two contemporary bedrooms, a designer kitchen and a bright lounge. Views stretch for miles and it is a great base for Peak District walking. **Sleeps four, from £107, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/peak-district-barn**

SAPPERTON WOOD EAST SUSSEX

This five-acre farm is idyllic, with its wild meadows, fruit orchards, and this fairy-tale shepherd's hut tucked away in its own field. The adjacent mini hut is home to a claw-foot bathtub. Fill it with bubbles and fling open the door to listen to birdsong as you bathe. **Sleeps two, from £95, kiphideaways.com/sussex-retreat**

BRAUNTON DEVON

Pack a massive wig and platform shoes for stays at this groovy seaside bungalow in Devon, an authentic throwback to the 70s. You'll find orange leather daybeds, cork-effect wallpapers, even a drinks trolley with Campari. It's five minutes to golden Saunton Sands. **Sleeps four, from £75, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/braunton-bolthole**

DOVEDALE PEAK DISTRICT

This hideaway is perfectly placed to explore the White Peak's limestone dales. Dovedale, Thorpe Cloud and Milldale are all close. But of equal beauty is the romantic little cottage itself, with a blend of historic and modern styles. And though you could cook, there is an award-winning pub a stroll away. **Sleeps two, from £73, kiphideaways.com/hideaways/peak-district-cottage**

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