Europeâ€™s best seaside holidays

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Despite the attractions of the Caribbean, Australia and the Maldives, some of the best beaches in the world are closer to home. Whilst the UK may not enjoy year round summer, Britain has some of the most interesting beaches in the world. If you are willing to travel a little further, then Europe also contains some of the best seaside towns and best beaches in the world. Although it is less likely you will get a beach to yourself, knowing where to look will mean that you are able to find something tailored to your particular interests.

Malta may not be top of the list for glamorous holidays, and much of the tiny island is covered in rocky beaches. However, the beach that makes it all worthwhile is the beautiful golden bay on the West of the island. Malta is so small that a short bus ride will take you right to the beach, which is relatively sparsely populated even during the height of the summer. The shallow bay warms the clear water, and the spectacular headland gives you great views into the Mediterranean. Maltaâ€™s climate and size make it ideal for a beach holiday any time of the year.

If you are looking for somewhere a little different, then Bulgaria could be just the place for you. The Black Sea resort of Golden Sands is located 10 miles from the city of Varna and offers large expanses of beach with relatively few tourists. The town was built in the 1950s and the number of hotels and restaurants mean that you will not be short of somewhere to stay or to eat. If you are travelling on a budget, then there are plenty of camping options available. Although Bulgaria might not be the first place that springs to mind, you wonâ€™t regret a trip to one of the newest members of the European Union.

No list of great holidays in Europe would be complete without France. Arcachon in the West of France is home to some of Franceâ€™s elite. Situated in the Bay of Biscay near to Bordeaux, the region is home to not only beautiful beaches, but also mysterious forests. The famous Hotel Arcachon looks out over the bay, and has been visited by some of the worldâ€™s most famous people throughout its history. Arcachon is regarded as one of the best seaside towns in France, and attracts large numbers of visitors each year, so booking ahead is a must.

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