

# OBSERVER

## Luxury Kid-Friendly Holiday Destinations

From VIK (Very Important Kids) programs in Florence to hidden playgrounds in Amsterdam, these destinations will welcome your teeny ones

By [Caroline Tell](#) · 06/12/17 12:10pm

If just considering traveling long haul with small children brings you out in hives, I can't blame you. Even if you survive the journey, more landmines greet you upon arrival. Forget about a chianti-filled dinner in Rome or cocktails at the yacht club – you're busy battling jet lag, foreign-sounding food and missed naps. But if you are brave enough to consider a summer trip with your wee ones, a few chic hotels are popping up to cater to luxury-driven families, both here and abroad. Whether through little gifts, child-friendly menus or massive makeshift playgrounds, these destinations are making it easier than ever to travel "en masse." If you can rustle up the courage, stylish properties await you on the other side – nannies and all.



Playa Vik – Pool and Deck. Photo: Playa Vik

**Vik Retreats:** Perhaps you've heard of Vik – a stunning group of properties throughout South America you figured you'd visit when the kids start sleep-away camp. Why wait? If you can bear the 10-plus hour flight, you'll be greeted with family friendly activities for all types of tots. In the Bohemian beach town of José Ignacio, Estancia Vik, Playa Vik and Bahia Vik invite children to take polo lessons, try kiteboarding and surfing, and enjoy supervised tennis, swimming and biking instruction. Meanwhile, Chile's Viña Vik boasts gorgeous year-round weather and is the supreme outpost to engage in outdoor activities set against the Andes mountains. Kids brave enough to hop a horse can go riding through the vines or shoot their sibling during a rousing game of paintball. More culturally inclined kinder can take cooking lessons. Once mom and dad have finished sunning themselves in peace, the family can back meet up for a traditional Chilean barbecue in the vineyard.