

\$53,000; high season, \$1,750–\$80,000)
Overall portfolio: \$\$
Pulito has been booking villas on the island for 28 years and has owned a home there for 25. All properties come with a private pool and daily housekeeping, and she can tell you which best accommodate small children and whether the walk from your villa to the beach is sandy or rocky (866-468-4552; cntrvlr.com/marilyn).

Europe

FRANCE

Lauren Bunton Hosted Villas, Toronto

38 properties (low season, \$6,600–\$21,750; high season, \$7,900–\$40,000)
Overall portfolio: \$\$\$
Bunton hunts down properties with character and native charm. Each villa includes a local host—an English-speaking longtime resident of the region who is eager to share insider advice and the hidden gems that you might otherwise miss. The host can recommend restaurants, make reservations, take you to a favorite winery or outdoor market, and arrange special events (a truffle hunt with picnic, for example). Hosted Villas' steep rates reflect the assistance you get not only from the host but also from the housekeeper (all properties are cleaned daily), not to mention the attention to detail in the house book, which covers everything from how to ask "Do you have this in a size 44?" to ways to identify a hand-rolled baguette (800-374-6637; cntrvlr.com/lauren).

Annie Flogaus

Just France, Berwyn, Pennsylvania
175 properties (low season, \$1,650–\$20,850; high season, \$2,000–\$29,750)
Overall portfolio: \$\$
Flogaus knows every detail of her houses—the views from each bedroom, the walking distance to the nearest village, the best weeks to go. She recommends Provence in June, when the village markets are not crowded and the fields are dotted with bright-red poppies. The only thing missing, she notes, is the lavender, which blooms in early July. Just France is best for self-sufficient travelers, and a bit of French may help: Not all of the house managers speak English (610-407-9633; cntrvlr.com/annie).

PARIS

Erica Berman Haven in Paris, Lexington, Massachusetts

31 properties (low season, \$850–\$8,225; high season, \$995–\$9,100)
Overall portfolio: \$\$
All of Berman's apartments are in historic buildings (some date back to the 1700s, others to the Art Deco era) and span the city's buzziest neighborhoods, with clusters in the Marais and St-Germain-des-Près. Most have balconies or terraces and stellar views (think Eiffel Tower or Sacre Coeur), the decor ranges from classic to contemporary, and every apartment comes with a computer for guests' use, free Wi-Fi, and free international phone calls (617-395-4243; cntrvlr.com/erica).

Gail Boisclair PerfectlyParis, Paris

31 properties (\$830–\$2,230 year-round)
Overall portfolio: \$



PENTHIÈVRE

Paris

Two bedrooms; from \$5,950 per week. Contact Erica Berman, Haven in Paris.

THE SPACE

A study in Parisian polish: On the sixth floor of a Haussmann-style building, the flat has two bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths, three marble fireplaces (decorative only), silk curtains, and a wood-paneled library.

THE NABE

In the eighth arrondissement between Parc Monceau and the Champs-Élysées and near the Élysée Palace, the tony boutiques of rue du Faubourg St-Honoré and famed macaroon shop Ladurée are just a five-minute walk away.

THE SERVICE

Weekly housekeeping is included, and daily can be arranged, as can a chef, babysitter, or driver—for an additional fee.

WHAT YOU WON'T FIND IN A HOTEL

The space per euro. For as little as \$850 a night (or \$425 a room), you get 1,680 square feet—plus two balconies—bang in the middle of one of the city's most desirable neighborhoods.

Boisclair's cozy apartments are in turn-of-the-century buildings with old-world charm (but with modern conveniences, including free Wi-Fi and international calling), all in or near the famously artsy neighborhood where she has lived for a dozen years: Montmartre (home to the Moulin Rouge and Lapin Agile). You won't mistake your stay for one at the Ritz, but the small size of Boisclair's portfolio allows her to provide personal service—she might be the one to greet you when you arrive at your flat (33-1-44-92-00-84; cntrvlr.com/gail).

PROVENCE

Nick Westwood Red Savannah, Cheltenham, England

30 properties (low season, \$4,300–\$39,489; high season, \$7,986–\$131,631)
Overall portfolio: \$\$\$
Westwood has spent the past 15 years scouring Provence to find its most stylish, best-located properties. Nearly all are available only through him, from modern minimalist villas on the Côte d'Azur to stone farmhouses surrounded by lavender fields farther inland. Looking for an authentically French experience in the next location? Try one of Westwood's properties in Le Rayol, the newly fashionable town just down the coast from St-Tropez (and close enough to nip round to Club 55 for lunch), or Saignon,

an eleventh-century village in the upper Luberon Valley (44-1242-787811; cntrvlr.com/nick).

ENGLAND

Suzanne B. Cohen Suzanne B. Cohen & Associates, Inc., Hallowell, Maine

313 properties (\$826–\$21,232 year-round)
Overall portfolio: S

The two-night minimum for Cohen's collection—which ranges from manor houses to lighthouses to flats, even including a windmill in Wales—is welcome news to anyone interested in getting a taste of country home or cottage renting before committing to a full week. She will steer you around the pitfalls, from homes with no shower curtains (or no showers at all) to traffic fines: "Don't park on the double yellow line even if everyone else has" (207-622-0743; villaeurope.com).

Warren de Long Blandings Ltd., London

162 properties (low season, \$1,560–\$90,000; high season, \$2,340–\$90,000)
Overall portfolio: \$\$
De Long's delightfully quirky properties are mostly located in southern England with a concentration in the Cotswolds. His focus is on larger, historic country houses—from farmhouses to manor

WORLDWIDE VILLA RENTAL GUIDE

DOWNLOAD OUR DIGITAL EDITION TO SEE PHOTOGRAPHS OF AVAILABLE VILLAS FROM EVERY SPECIALIST'S PORTFOLIO OF PROPERTIES.

PRICES Some agents have cottages, others have fairy-tale estates; we've characterized their portfolios from one dollar sign (\$) for the least expensive to four (\$\$\$\$) for very expensive relative to the region. Unless otherwise noted, prices reflect one-week rentals.

FOR REVIEWS OF THESE VILLA SPECIALISTS FROM FELLOW TRAVELERS AS WELL AS ANSWERS TO ESSENTIAL RENTAL FAQS, GO ONLINE TO [CONDENAST TRAVELER.COM/VILLA-SPECIALISTS](http://CONDENASTTRAVELER.COM/VILLA-SPECIALISTS).

TRAVELING LIKE ROYALTY: HOW THE 0.01% GET THEIR THRILLS (you cantoo)

Condé Nast Traveler

HONG KONG:
INSIDER'S GUIDE

TRUTH IN TRAVEL
MARCH 2013

AHHH, PRIVACY!

**5,000+
DREAM VILLAS
WORLDWIDE**

(Italy, France, Argentina, Hawaii,
England, Greece, Brazil, Turkey, Costa Rica,
the Caribbean, Spain, and more)

AMAZON LUXURY
SAILING THE RIVER IN STYLE

AMERICAN BOUNTY
FEASTING THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

AFRICAN FANTASY
THE BUSH, THE BEASTS, AND YOU

PLUS

**270
TOP SPAS
IN THE U.S.,
MEXICO, CARIBBEAN,
AND AT SEA**



HOME DOLCE HOME: The five-bedroom
Villa Podere Alto, overlooking Tuscany's
Val d'Orcia, is available for weekly rentals.

CONDENASTTRAVELER.COM