



# 10 Exciting Villas To Book Now

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## Cool Villas For 2016

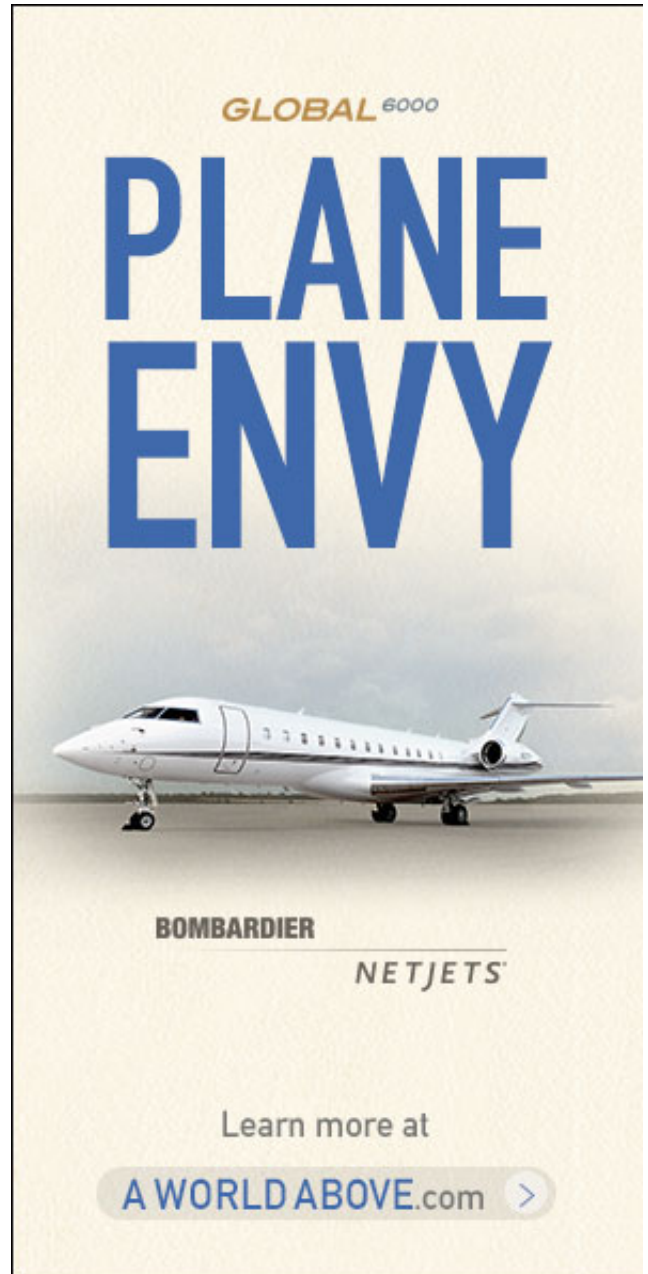
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The usual villa sales pitch is that it's a home away from home, room for you and your family or friends to spread out and feel at ease. But when you really think about it, that's not quite what most of us want. Especially when we travel with loved ones, we want to feel like we're somewhere better than home. We want an upgrade—vacation should be lovelier than real life. That's kind of the point.

All over the world, there are villas with lavish design, killer views, historic pedigrees and—it goes without saying—supremely competent staffs who handle everything from sweeping floors to selecting wines for five-course dinners. Most of them are completely pleasant.

But what we crave now is individuality and scarcity—having an experience that few others get to. In many circles, quirky is cool. Here are ten places that fit the bill. (I've stayed at a few as a guest of the owners.)



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Architecture photography of the Nandana property at West End, Bahamas

## Nandana, Bahamas

In the Caribbean, you expect conch fritters, rum punch and a visuals that are either Addison Mizner Mediterranean revival or predictable British colonial. So it comes as something of a surprise to find yourself nibbling Argentine-style beef empanadas, sipping a Napa Merlot, being massaged by a Bahamian curiously named Alpacino and, most strikingly, soaking up an aesthetic that's straight out of Southeast Asia, all temple rooflines, Thai *nagas* and Cambodian statuary. **Nandana**, which has four bedrooms plus a safari-style tent, has a 50-foot yacht for fishing, all sorts of land and water toys, and a 400-bottle wine cellar, but perhaps its biggest luxury is its own private airport with immigration facilities.

