

# Tots to Travel moves into Spain, Portugal and the islands

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30 March 2010 - Families with young children looking for year round sun and a short haul flight for their next holiday have had their prayers answers. Award-winning company Tots to Travel is launching into Spain, Portugal, the Balearic Islands and the Canaries.

The company, known for its outstanding customer service and in-depth understanding of parents needs, will be replicating its successful formula currently used in France, Italy and the UK. Tots to Travel's on-the-ground mums personally visit and vet every property, ensuring they meet the high standards demanded by parents, keeping a particularly keen eye on safety features.

"For example, in Spain there are no laws about swimming pools being enclosed, which means parents have to spend every minute watching their children, hardly a relaxing break," explains Wendy Shand, founder of Tots to Travel. "In contrast, all of our properties have enclosed or alarmed pools as well as many other safety features like stair gates, bed guards and baby monitors."

The company ensures that the properties provide everything a young family needs – from toys to bath mats, sterilisers to potties. It also encourages property owners to provide a range of little extras that transform a self catering holiday into more of a boutique hotel experience, like babysitting, home cooked meals, spa treatments and luxurious fittings.

"Family holiday time is sacred for parents. They don't want to risk getting it wrong. But with the glut of holiday lets, particularly in Spain and the Canary islands, it's hard to tell one property from the other. We've done the hard work for them by finding the properties that stand out as exceptional and which are ideal for young families," says Wendy.

The new properties vary in size and setting – like:

- the large Finca de Luci in Spain which sleeps 14, set in a rural location for a taste of traditional Spanish life (from £1145 per week)
- medium- sized Las Palmeras in Spain sleeping 5 and situated within a beach front resort (from £575 per week)
- the small Casa Parque del Rey sleeping 4, with a private heated pool, situated on the edge of Playa Blanca in Lanzarote (from £675 per week)

For more information on any of the properties or to view Tots to Travel's full portfolio, please visit [www.totstotravel.co.uk](http://www.totstotravel.co.uk) or call 0845 26 941 26.

Notes to editors

Tots to Travel

Tots to Travel ([www.totstotravel.co.uk](http://www.totstotravel.co.uk)) is the parent company of Tots to France, Tots to Italy, Tots to Spain and Tots to the UK. The company specialises in providing accommodation to meet the very specific needs of families with babies and young children. All properties are fully equipped with a range of child-related equipment and safety features. The company also provides English-speaking babysitters and home cooked meals. All properties are personally visited and vetted to Child Accident Prevention Trust

(CAPT) standards.

The company was set up by Wendy Shand, mum of three, in April 2006 as a holiday lettings agency with a range of family friendly properties throughout France. The concept proved enormously successful, with the company now offering over 80 French properties. Building on this success, the award-winning formula was replicated in Italy with the launch of Tots to Italy in January 2008, now featuring more than 20 vetted properties. Tots to the UK launched in February 2009, with roll outs for other countries like Portugal and Turkey planned.

Wendy Shand won the Mother@work Best Mumpreneur Award 2007, the Enterprisenation Home Business of the Year Award 2007 and the BT Essence of the Entrepreneur Award 2007. The company was also a regional finalist in the HSBC Start Up Stars awards 2008, a finalist in the StartUps Awards 2008 and a runner up in the Everywomen Awards 2008. Wendy has been named Practical Parenting's Inspirational Business Mum of the Year 2009 and is a runner up in the Remote Worker Awards 2009. In March 2010, Tots to Travel was crowned as one of the eight winners in the 2010 Cisco Customer Kings awards, held in conjunction with Real Business magazine. The awards recognise UK companies that provide the best customer engagement and service.

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