



# 10 of the best winter sun destinations for 2018

Shake off the winter blues with the promise of sun, sea and palm-fringed sands. Writers based in hotspots around the world recommend their favourite beaches for kicking back and relaxing



Frond imaginings ... the view from Haven Guesthouse at Bai Xep, near Quy Nho'n



1,345  37 

Guardian writers

Saturday 25 November 2017 07:00 GMT

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Grande-Anse beach, Guadeloupe

## Grande-Anse beach, Guadeloupe



 Plage jaune ... stunning Grande-Anse beach. Photograph: Getty Images



We stumbled across the majestic [Grand-Anse beach](#) by accident, having taken a wrong turn off Guadeloupe's main west-coast road on the Basse-Terre half of the island. Though we realised our mistake within a few minutes of picking our way along a rutted road with coconut trees and sea-grape bushes pressing in on us, we continued and were rewarded with a 1km, crescent-shaped expanse of magnificent fine sand and tranquil, crystal-clear water.

As we came to discover, there are easier ways to reach Grand-Anse. At the other end of the beach, there are cafes, restaurants and food trucks serving a mixture of mouth-watering French and Guadeloupian cuisine. A must-try is the national favourite, *bokit*: freshly fried dough, sliced open and filled with fish, meat, chicken or vegetables, topped with salad and smothered in a homemade sauce that ranges from mild to extremely hot. Those who attempt the hot sauce can cool the taste buds down with another local favourite - creamy coconut ice-cream, hand-churned on the spot.