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# The 12 best Portugal holidays for summer

The country is hot favourite for the UK's green list, so avoid the crowds with our expert guide to its sweeping beaches and sleepy villages





Enjoy stunning views from Grand House

TIAGO DE PAULA CARVALHO

### **3. Grand House on the Spanish border**

Drive another 40 minutes east — or take the train from Faro — and you'll come to Vila Real de Santo Antonio. Built on the banks of the Guadiana, it's the last Portuguese town before Spain, a charming, tranquil place that values amblers, river cruisers and beach lovers; the flat, golden sands of Praia da Ponta da Areia are a two-mile bike ride through the pines south of town. Grand House is the best address, with its own laid-back beach club and a rooftop cocktail bar with views of Spain.