

THE SUNDAY TIMES

NATION ON STAYCATION

Foreign holidays could be banned. British bookings are soaring. *Anna Menin* speaks to five firms gearing up for a staycation boom

THE 25 B&B, DEVON

● After months of lockdown restrictions, families are eager to book summer breaks — but it is not yet clear whether they will be able to travel abroad. Boris Johnson warned last week it was “too early” to set out new rules on foreign travel. Many are opting to organise holidays at home in the meantime.

Bookings began to flood in for **Andy and Julian Banner-Price**, who run The 25, a B&B in Torquay, Devon, as the prime minister set out his road map for easing restrictions last month. “Before he had even finished speaking, the phone was ringing and people were booking,” said Andy, 48. The award-winning B&B’s six rooms are now full for almost 80 per cent of the period until the end of October, when it closes for the winter. The pair are already taking bookings for next year.

They noticed that many customers were opting for the more expensive rooms — The 25’s range from £139 to £199 a night. “People are probably spending more because they have missed so many holidays,” he said.

