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A guide on where to buy property abroad

Unstable politics and long-haul flights are no barrier to holiday-house thrill seekers

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Never mind the property slump in the UK. What about a villa in Thailand, a beachfront apartment in Venezuela, a safari lodge in Botswana or a house in Florida? Falling house prices may be deterring buyers over here but to some property investors, unstable politics, rioting, economic downturn and long-haul charter flights are no obstacles to purchasing the ultimate holiday home. If you are looking for something beyond the usual villa in Spain or France, consider these:

Thailand

Thailand is in the news after the anti-government riots there. And yet it remains one of the most popular emerging property markets. Gorgeous weather, amazing beaches and friendly locals have prompted a surge in holiday-home building in Phuket and Ko Samui. However, there are strict rules governing the foreign ownership of land, so if buying in Thailand, be sure to seek good legal advice and check that the building works will be completed. Flying to Bangkok takes about 12 hours; direct return flights from London cost from about £600.

For Sale: A two-bedroom villa in Maenam Hills in Ko Samui costs about £100,000. Further information:

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