

A Guide to Holidays



When your child is having any type of treatment for retinoblastoma it can be a challenging time. There are many organisations who help to make it a more positive experience by offering family or activity holidays. Holidays are often limited in number and subject to availability so check each individual organisation's criteria before applying. It is important to unwind and spend time together as a family which is away from the hospital.

The following organisations offer holidays to families whose children are having or have had treatment for cancer or have a visual impairment. Some charities offer a complete package but with others you may have to contribute towards the costs; organise and buy your own flights; arrange holiday insurance; or make travel arrangements. Often the organisation can assist in doing this so it is worth asking about all of their services.

Family Fund

www.familyfund.org.uk

The Family Fund is an organisation which provides grants to low-income families to meet the additional needs of caring for a seriously ill or disabled child. This includes providing grants which can be used towards the cost of a family holiday. The Family Fund grants can also be used for practical items such as a washing machine, so it is advisable to contact them to find out more about their service and decide what would be of most benefit to you and your family. Grants can be applied for yearly.

0845 130 4542

info@familyfund.org.uk

The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust is unable to recommend specific organisations and are not responsible for the content of their websites, but the information below should help you to access the services they offer.

Calum's Cabin

www.calumscabin.com

They have a holiday cabin in the Isle of Bute. **07544 979 538**

Christian Lewis Trust

www.christianlewis-trust.org

This charity offers holidays in Disneyland Paris, Disney World Florida and in luxury caravans in Wales. **01792 480500**

CLIC Sargent

www.clicsargent.org.uk

Provide fully catered holidays at Malcolm Sargent House in Ayrshire and caravan holidays around the English coast. **01292 671 233**



“ We found that our time spent together on a family holiday after treatment was invaluable.”

Happy Days Children’s Charity

www.happydayscharity.org

This charity funds and organises holidays, residential trips, days out and theatre trips.

01582 755999

Donna’s Dream House

www.donnasdreamhouse.co.uk

A holiday home situated in the heart of Blackpool. Families also receive tickets for local attractions and meals. **01253 752222**

The Kensington Foundation

www.kensingtonfoundation.com

The Kensington Foundation runs The Daisy Chain Project. This offers accommodation and respite breaks in Blackpool. **01253 761444**

Lennox Children’s Cancer Fund

www.lennoxccf.org.uk

Luxury self catering caravans or log cabins around the English coastline plus spending money.

01708 734366

LOOK

www.look-uk.org

LOOK is a charity supporting parents and carers of visually impaired children. Members of LOOK can stay in LOOK’s holiday flat in Scarborough.

01522 858451

National Blind Children’s Society

www.nbcs.org.uk

The NBCS organise activities for families who have a child with a visual impairment and offer holidays in their specially adapted mobile home in the south west. **01278 764 770**

The Oliver Curd Trust

www.theolivercurdtrust.co.uk

Offer holidays in their caravan based in East Sussex. **01797 230 329**

The Thomas Ball Children’s Cancer Fund

www.thomasball.org.uk

This organisation offers holiday homes on the Hampshire coast. **01494 890157**

Vitalise

www.vitalise.org.uk

Provide short breaks for people with a visual impairment or disability, along with family, friends or carers.

0845 345 1970

Camp Sunshine (USA)

www.campsunshine.org

Each year Camp Sunshine run a week specifically for families affected by retinoblastoma which any family from the UK can attend.

info@campsunshine.org

Your local treatment hospital

Some of the treatment hospitals have associated cancer charities which support local children.

A number of these support groups also have caravans which you can use, so it is worth finding out what your local cancer charity can do.

“ If you love being part of a team, facing new challenges, making friends and having fun, try an activity holiday.”

Activity Holidays and Holidays for Adults with Cancer

Activity holidays tend to be for older children and adults who have had cancer or other serious illnesses and visually impaired people. Siblings may also be eligible. Many holidays are restricted to people affected by serious illness at time of booking or those who have been in remission for up to 5 years.

Action for Blind People, Vacation Scheme

www.actionforblindpeople.org.uk
Contact through the RNIB Helpline
0303 123 9999

Barretstown

www.barretstown.org
00353 45 864115

Camp Quality UK

www.campquality.org.uk
01212 884745

Destination Florida

www.destinationflorida.org.uk
0161 789 7788

Dreamflight

www.dreamflight.org
01494 722733

The Ellen MacArthur Cancer Trust

www.ellenmacarthurtrust.org
01983 297750

Jubilee Sailing Trust

www.jst.org.uk
023 8044 9108

Katie's Ski Tracks

www.katiesskitracks.org
0151 928 7595

Over the Wall

www.otw.org.uk
02392 477110

Sail 4 Cancer

www.sail4cancer.org
0845 408 1849

Vitalise

www.vitalise.org.uk
0845 345 1970

The Willow Foundation

www.willowfoundation.org.uk
01707 259 777

Youth Cancer Trust

www.yct.org.uk
01202 763 591

Ffion climbing the mast on a sailing holiday in the Caribbean with the Jubilee Sailing Trust.

