

You can take the toddler away from home, but you can't take his ever-so-embarrassing tendencies away from him!

### Wee-ly awful

'On holiday with friends, the mums were browsing the shops in an upmarket mall while us dads entertained the little ones, chasing them up and down the ramps. Suddenly Rosie ran, at great speed, straight into the gents' toilets. Before I could catch her, she reappeared, with the urinal block in her hands. The other dads visibly blanched at the thought of what she was holding, while I had to give her a thorough scrub before her mum found out!' **Mark, dad to Rosie, two, Middlesex**

### OUTFIT MALFUNCTION

'We treated ourselves to a weekend away in Dublin

### Dining disaster

'We'd been staying with some childless friends for the weekend and they decided to take us to the local gastropub for a big Sunday lunch before we headed home. We were having a really lovely time chatting and drinking until our daughter started being sick - without any warning. My husband instantly decided the best thing was to pick her up and get her to the toilet - unfortunately it was at the other end of the restaurant. Suffice to say they left an unmissable trail behind them. Our friends haven't invited us back since!'

**Juliet, mum to Ella, 18 months, Hitchin**



# Holiday cringe stories

when Sofia was three months old. I was feeling glam as I'd dressed up for one of the first times since having her. It was predictable, then, that she was

sick all over me in the taxi on the way to the hotel! I had to ignore the receptionist's snotty look as we checked in and give her my best "yes, that carrot purée is meant to be on my top" look. But the "capsule wardrobe" I'd packed was heavily reliant on the clothes I was wearing - so I spent the rest of the weekend in mismatched outfits!' **Anne, mum to Sofia, six months, Nottingham**

### Bottle it

'We were on our way to visit my parents in Scotland and a friend was driving us to the train station, but we were

running late. We'd just potty-trained Jack - so, of course, he started shouting from the back seat about needing a wee, but we didn't have time to stop: cut to me turning from the front, empty water bottle in one hand, "directing" Jack's aim with the other. Thank God I was in no position to register the looks from other drivers!' **Sarah, mum to Jack, three, south London**

### TERROR TOT

'We'd gone to a friend's 40th birthday and spent the night at a local B&B. At about 4am, we were awoken by knocking on our bedroom door. We were

the only ones staying in the house, so we were terrified. Our son's cot was next to the door, so we moved it next to our bed, just in case (of what, I'm not quite sure!). Cue lots of loud noises as we rearranged the room. The landlady gave us some strange looks over our full English the next day - but we later found out local legend had it the B&B was haunted, so I'm glad we moved Luke!' **Zoe, mum to Luke, four months, Southampton**

### Cry baby

'We were staying in a posh hotel that claimed to be baby-friendly. On the first night,

### Ride trouble

'On a recent trip to a theme park, Alex kept trying to escape under the barriers and by the afternoon I was tired out from stopping him. He saw his chance and threw himself over the barrier to the chair swings. Without pausing, he grabbed a swing, and shouted "Mine!" at the children whose turn it was. The whole ride had to be held up while we squeezed along the queue to get him, with my daughter proudly shouting, "My brother's so naughty!" at the assembled crowd.'

**Helena, mum to Hope, four, and Alex, two, Kingston, Surrey**

Kitty was an angel. But on the second night, when a snooty "older" couple were staying next door, Kitty decided to wake at 1am and scream inconsolably for two hours. The hotel was an old stately home and the rooms were pitch black. We were stumbling about in the dark, falling over things and arguing over how to calm her. The next day, the couple told us over breakfast, "We heard your baby last night." I would have been embarrassed but they were so rude about it that it just made me angry. Plus I was too tired to care!' **Cate, mum to Kitty, one, Oxford**