Five UK camping destinations for families

By Sharron Livingston

The UK does camping very well. From bring your own to fullfledged luxury so you can choose where to pitch up.

CAMP KATUR Family luxury

Where: Bedale, Yorkshire

The area is known for its quaint market town, famed for being mentioned in the Domesday Book and for its proximity to the Yorkshire Dales – a region of stunning scenery.

Why: Camp Katur is more glamping than camping (that means you get some luxury thrown in). It is set within 250 acres of rolling countryside with lots of quirky accommodation scattered over pretty meadows and woodlands. These include safari tents, tipis, bell tents and hobbit pods. Best of all they have unidoms the UK's only clear panoramic domed shape structure which offers 360 degree views of the surrounding woodland. Imagine: you get to stargaze until you fall asleep and wakeup to the views of picturesque woodlands.

There's lots do for families such as an adventure area for the kids, woodlands walks and trails, cycling, Norwegian BBQ hut, segway treks, quadbiking and a tree top high ropes course. For those that want some pampering there's an eco-spa with hot tub and sauna, Camp Katur is also dog-friendly and stabling is available if guests fancy bringing their horses along too.

Prices range from Hobbit pods starting from £90 for two nights to Unidome from £160 for two nights.

SCAMPERHOLIDAYS TIMBER TENTS Camping by half

Where: Three Cliffs Bay and Rhossili, Gower, Wales

When you pitch up here you will be doing so on the most westerly bay of the Gower peninsula. This is where the Atlantic swells and where you are likely to get the best surfing experience.

Why: You get a taste of the back-tonature goodness of a tent but with the guaranteed warmth and comfort of a wind-proof timber structure. Canvas roll-up awnings with decked fbor living quarters merge with the cosy timber bedroom creating and outdoor-indoor feeling of true camping with a touch of pure luxury. Minimum stay – 2 nights from £200 sleeping up to 4 people.

WOOLACOMBE BAY HOLIDAY PARKS Choose your style

Where: Four parks in Devon all close to Woolacombe Beach

The quartet of parks are located by Woolacombe Bay beach – a superb beach whose splendour has been acknowledged by TripAdvisor's Top Ten list of best beaches in Europe.

Why: You can find all sorts of accommodation styles from self-catering, caravans, luxury lodges, apartments or places to pitch your own tent. Whichever you choose you have access to the facilities of all four.

The biggest park is the Golden Coast. It has a superb outdoor pool and a surfing simulator. There's also lakes and village which offer places to relax.

Woolacombe Bay generally gets booked up quickly because if you stay there you get to wake up to a



huge sandy beach literally on your doorstep. It is the quintessential English seaside holiday. The park also has a pool, spa treatments and lots of sporting activities.

The other two are Twitchen House, which has a woodland location but still close to the beach and Easewell Farm which has a sensational 9-hole golf course and easy access to coastal walks.

BCC LOCH NESS GLAMPING Cosy as a hobbit

Where: Situated a few miles away from world-famous Loch Ness and the equally enchanting Glen Affric, renowned for being one of the most beautiful glens in Scotland.

Why: Live like a hobbit in hobbitstyle camping pods. You will have access to the site's shared kitchen, modern toilet and shower block, and BBQ, children's play area and WiFi. On site there is the River Enrick where children can fish and a beautiful forest to enjoy long leisurely walks. Just six miles away you can explore Urquhart Castle or go Nessie searching on a Loch Ness boat trip via the Loch Ness Monster Exhibition Centre.

The pods cost from £35 per night, based on two adults sharing.

PENTRE MAWR HOT TUB SAFARI For adults only

Where: Denbigh, Wales

Denbigh may well be the most historic market town in North Wales with over 1000 years of history, myth and legend on offer. Its 800 year old Denbigh castle still dominates the skyline.

Why: If you hanker after safari lodge luxury check out these adult-only safari-style tents. They are situated within the grounds of Pentre Mawr Country House, a five star luxury hotel in Denbighshire, North Wales. The canvas lodges feature full bathrooms with under fbor heating, freestanding baths and wet rooms and granite work tops. Each has its own private terrace with hot tub.

They are fully heated with super king size leather beds and a sitting area. Facilities even include Freeview TV and a DVD player, an iPod dock, bath robes and slippers. You also get to use swimming pool and restaurant in the main house. Prices start from £325 per night but includes breakfast.

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