

Camping with a twist

Whether you're bringing your own tent or looking to stay somewhere more special, getting back to nature has never been so exciting...

THE RETRO ONE

Happy Days Retro Vacations, East Dorset Book yourself a kitsch camping staycation at this collection of vintage Airstream caravans. Choose between Betsy, Dee Dee, Peggy and new gal, Gloria. The ultimate 'chrome from home!' Based on the peaceful Meadow View Campsite in Horton, they are perfect for families with attractions such as Moors Valley Country Park and Paultons Park close by. **COST** Four berth Airstreams from £460 a week, 01202 567606, happydaysrv.co.uk
* Retro lovers should also check out Love Lane Caravans on The Lizard. 01326 316042, lovelanecaravans.com



Ideal for groups or families

BARGAIN ALERT!

THE WILD ONE

Durrell Wildlife Camp, Jersey Guests stay in geodesic dome-shaped semi-permanent tents with a kitchen, real beds, showers, WC and cooking facilities. The communal area - Lemur Lodge - overlooks 'lemur lake' exhibit, a natural valley home to species such as lemurs. And across 'Camellia Walk' you'll see native birds, as well as marmosets, tamarins and storks. **COST** Two adults and two children from £325 for three nights. 01534 860090, durrell.org/camp



All the comforts of home



Camping pod style

THE POD ONE

According to **The Camping and Caravanning Club**, camping pods are the most modern way to camp. With sites around the UK in Bellingham, Skye, Eskdale and Thetford Forest, they are built from locally sourced timber and insulated with sheep's wool. Many of the pods also have heating, electric lighting and electric sockets along with a block for barbecues and picnics. **COST** £35 per night for up to four people. campingandcaravanningclub.co.uk/alternative-camping/about-pods

THE ROMANTIC ONE

Set on a Leicestershire goat farm, **Bluebells tent at Dandelion Hideaway** is tucked away from five others (all family orientated) and full of romantic touches such as a chaise longue and candlelit roll-top bath. **COST** Three-night weekend breaks from £389 for two, including goodies and wood for the stove and campfires. 01455 292888, thedandelionhideaway.co.uk



Recline on the chaise longue

THE CUTE ONE

Shepherds Hut, Somerford Keynes, Gloucestershire These two lovely shepherd's huts feature pine-clad walls and wooden floors. A communal tent has a sink, fridge and cooking area and

there's an on-site solar shower. Water sports and Cirencester are close by. **COST** From £100 a week for up to four guests. 01285 869040, holidaylettings.co.uk/128637

THE FARM ONE

Mill Farm, Wiltshire These new canvas lodges offer luxury camping with stylish living areas, a stove and wood burning fire, a master bedroom, second twin or double, kids bunk beds and even flushing toilets and hot showers. **COST** From £600 per week, 01380 828351, millfarmglamping.co.uk



Glamping makes it easy

THE MUSICAL ONE

Henry's Campsite, The Lizard, Cornwall Pitch your tent then enjoy the wonderful array of wild, cultivated and exotic plants, rescued animals and local art. This site has a summer festival feel and hosts its own mini-fest of acoustic music from 21-24 September. **COST** £9.60 per adult, £4.80 per child and £3 for electric hook-ups. All prices are per night. 01326 290596, henryscampsite.co.uk



Enjoy a festival vibe

THE FOREST ONE

Stay in contemporary copper beech timber and glass cabins in the shadow of Ben Ledi next to Loch Lubnaig in Strathyre. The focus is on the forest from your outdoor verandah to a wide range of Ranger-led activities, including forest night visions walks and deer, badger, moth or bat spotting. **COST** Cabin, sleeping four costs from £692 for four nights, 0845 130 8223, forestholidays.co.uk



Woodland retreat

WORDS: JANE ANDERSON

THE GYPSY CAMP

Bouncers Farm, Essex Part of the Maldon Art Trail, a Gypsy camp is recreated at the edge of an orchard and rare Kune Kune pigs range free. Food hampers can be delivered and there's a wood burner too. **COST** A three-night break costs £345 for four. 01275 395447, canopyandstars.co.uk/find-a-place/bouncers-farm



Camp in the orchard

Overseas out of the ordinary camping

Eco-friendly

Sleep in a cow in Limousin, France! Marguerite is eco-friendly with dry toilet and a solar powered shower. From €65 (£52) a night for two B&B. closigigondas.com/marguerite-la-vache-limousine



Go mobile

Check out Thomson Al Fresco for great mobile home parks across Europe, some close to attractions like Lake Garda in Italy and Disneyland Paris in France. 0871 231 3293, thomsonalfresco.co.uk



Frontier land

Blow the budget at Dunton Hot Springs in the Colorado Rockies with a private log cabin. From £440 a night based on two sharing with all meals and drinks. duntonhotsprings.com



Terrific tipi

Cook dinner over an open fire, then retire to your own tipi in Dalsland, Sweden. A three-night stay costs from £363 for up to six people with Nature Travels, 01929 503080, naturetravels.co.uk

