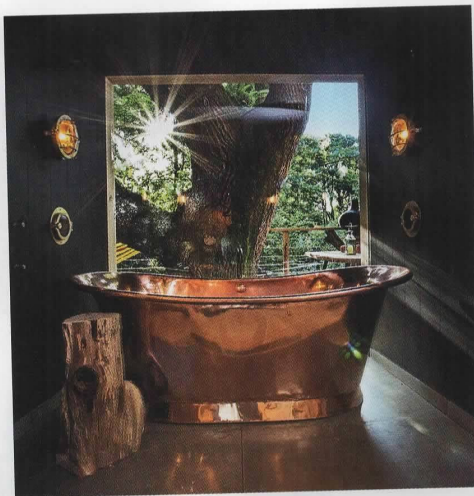


35 GET SERIOUS ABOUT TREE CLIMBING IN SWEDEN

If your tree-climbing skills peaked in childhood, it's high time to spend a weekend on a tree-climbing course in southern Sweden. Here, serious lessons involve ropes and hard hats, and great rewards, with a squirrel's-eye view at the top. There's an optional extra of spending the night in a sling high in the canopy, where you're harnessed in and a guide is on hand for night-time descents to the loo (4 days from £617, including accommodation; naturetravels.co.uk).

● **ARRIVE** Copenhagen is the closest airport. SAS flies from Heathrow and Manchester, easyJet from Bristol and Gatwick (from £73; easyjet.com)



36 CAMP DEEP IN THE DORSET WOODS

Glamping set-ups don't come more elaborate than Crafty Camping, hidden in the woods of West Dorset. Yurts? Check. Teepees? Check. Shepherd's hut? Check. Bell tents? Yep. All feature wooden writing tables, rough-hewn timber beds, hammocks for summer days and wood-burning stoves to allay West Country drafts. The star of the show, however, is the Woodsman's Treehouse, the Hearst Castle of wooden stays, arranged around an oak tree with hot tub and sauna. Should you get a hankering to whittle your own masterpiece into being, try an on-site woodwork or spoon-carving lesson (bell tents from £176; treehouse from £780 for two nights; mallinson.co.uk).

● **ARRIVE** Axminster station is five miles away. Direct trains run from Exeter, Andover and London Waterloo (from £75; southwesternrailway.com).



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BEST WEEKENDS AWAY

37 SLEEP IN THE CANOPY IN FINLAND

A peculiar crossbreed of a hammock, a tent, a treehouse and a trampoline, the Tentsile is a novel camping device for those camping out in the woods, suspended by a triangular rope system that raises it as high above the forest floor as you dare. If you need to be convinced to shell out £345 for your own (or perhaps can't find three suitable candidate trees in the UK), why not spend a weekend at the Honkalintu Experience EcoCamp in Nuukio National Park, not far from Helsinki? Here, a number of Tentsiles pitched on a hillside overlooking a woodland lake are available to staying guests. Days might be whiled away wandering forest trails, heading out on canoe expeditions, swimming or simply lying back on your Tentsile and gazing up through the clear roof at the swaying pines above (from £149 for two; honkalintu.fi).

● **ARRIVE** BA and Finnair fly direct from Heathrow and Manchester to Helsinki; Norwegian flies from Gatwick (from £95; ba.com).

