

Four camping classics in Britain

1 Bryher campsite, Bryher Island, Isles of Scilly

A clean, green field divided up by low dry-stone walls, with beautiful views of crumbling castles, white sand beaches and the ocean. There's a small toilet and shower block, with plenty of hot water; you can buy food at the island stores or from local fishermen and gardeners. If you want to go during the school holidays book well in advance, but if you go in May or June you may have the place to yourself. Tents only (the only way to get to Bryher is by boat), and it's £5-7 per adult per night, depending on the season. Ideal for families (particularly as there's practically no traffic on the island). Call 01720 422886 for more details.

2 Wasdale Head National Trust campsite in the Lake District

The campsite nestles beneath the Scafell mountains and at the head of Wastwater, the deepest lake in England. It's a stunning setting, and if camping here doesn't make you feel like you're at the mercy of the elements, then you are one tough hombre. It's remote but there's a shop on site and there's a pub you can walk to. Tents and camper vans only - caravans won't



Get a tent for a decent view of Snowdon

make it up the narrow lanes to the site. You can't book (it's first come, first served) and in high season you'd be well advised to get there early. It's £4.50 per adult per night; they don't allow large single-sex groups. Call 01946 726220.

3 Snowdon Valley Camping, at the foot of Snowdon

There are too few loos and showers, and there can be midges, and the site is really only for walkers and climbers rather than frolicking toddlers, but there are two big selling points: you're allowed real fires, quite a rare thing in this country, and when you wake up, weather allowing, you'll have a view of the top of Snowdon from your tent. It's £5 per adult per night; £6 on bank holiday weekends, campers only, and you can book ahead on 01766 890321. Don't forget to bring some wood.

4 North Morte Farm, Woolacombe, Devon

A great family campsite with access to the coastal path and views across the water to Wales. It's about 500 yards from a small beach, and less than a mile (by foot) from the splendour of Woolacombe bay. There's also a fish and chip shop within walking distance. The site's chief fault is that it is exposed; some of the pitches are also far from level. Caravans, camper vans, tents all fine - 01271 870381. It's £7 a night for adult tent-dwellers in high season; tent campers can't book ahead.