Travel Time with Chase & BUD | GLAMPING



Here's a fun concept: glamping. It's a happy merger of the words "glamorous" and "camping" and denotes an outdoor vacation that takes the old tent-on-the-ground experience and kicks it into the stratosphere. Instead of having to wrestle with your own tent and unroll your own sleeping bag, glamping destinations can offer permanent tents on raised platforms, complete with real beds and bed linens, space (and furniture) to lounge about in and much more. Some offer tree houses, cabins and/or "pods"—minihouses plunked down in stunning outdoor settings. Some have classic tents, some have yurts. Some provide hook-up sites for your own RV.

As for amenities, it all depends on the specific destination. Some have onsite gourmet food options, some have in-tent or in-cabin cooking facilities. All pay special attention to the American obsession with bathrooms. Some have actual functioning bathrooms with toilets, showers and sinks. Some have private outhouses (you'd be amazed at how they can be duded up) and lovely outdoor showers with solar heated water.

Sound dubious? I totally get it. Bud and I were a bit uneasy before our first tented safari experiences in South Africa and Kenya. We were told we would be comfortable, but had no idea the level of luxury we'd find. King sized beds. Sofas and writing tables. Impeccable attention to bathrooms. Decks and porches with expansive views over the savannah. Best of all, we were outdoors. We could feel the breezes, hear the lions and elephants and monkeys as they moved about in the night. It was amazing. It was glamping!

And now, luckily for New Hampshirites, you don't have to go to Africa to have such an experience. You won't hear leopards searching for a midnight snack, but you can have a luxury camping experience here in our own state. In fact, the options are almost endless.

And what better timing? Gas prices are at historical highs. Traffic in the air and on the ground is honestly epic. Why not save some time, effort and money and enjoy glamping right here?

NH GLAMPING OPTIONS

Begin researching with Google to find current articles and general lists. Then do a deep dive into sites like www.tentrr.com and www.hipcamp.com. Both offer map searches if you have a hankering for a certain area of the state. The destinations below give an idea of the wide variety available.

Huttopia White Mountains is a glamping resort in Albany run by a French company devoted to combining French style with enjoyment of the outdoors. Accommodations are nicely outfitted platform tents and cabins, some more remote than others and amenities include an Airstream trailer converted to a high-end food truck. Visit www.canada-usa.huttopia.com for photos, maps and more.

Hub North is a rustic glamping destination/resort in Gorham, converted from the former Sunset Valley Girl Scout Camp by Kara and Jason Hunter who were inspired by their visits to New Zealand. Tents and yurts have full kitchens and access to bike-in/bike-out mountain biking trails. Visit www. hubnorthnh.com for lots mor info and images.

Plein Air is closer, just near Plymouth, and has just one luxury platform tent with a tin roof, a covered porch, and a sense of remote serenity. The interior is outfitted better than many luxury hotels we've seen. Owners Angie and Brandon Miller also run a working farm—so you'll get farm fresh eggs and pastries from the local bakery in the morning. Find images and details at www.hipcamp.com.

Cozy Treehouse might suit you better if you like sturdier constructions. Yes, it's vertical, made of some new and some reclaimed materials, but all charming and surprisingly house-and-home-like. It's in Sanbornton and definitely worth more than a quick look. Visit www.vrbo/1774712 for pictures and details.

Fox Pointe-BYO-RV represents another option if you have your own RV and like privacy instead of a big RV park. This is a single RV pad, complete with all hookups: water/sewer/electric and Wi-Fi overlooking lovely Sunrise Lake in Middleton, near Wolfeboro and the Maine border. There's a private beach, a 40' dock and a sense of lake life as it used to be. Visit www. hipcamp.com for images/details or call owners Debra and Randy Barnes directly 603 724-7699 for info and offers.





Here's your opportunity to try Pickleball. This 2-day workshop is for those who've never picked up a paddle or played a game. In this workshop you will learn the rules of the game, correct use of the paddle, how to serve and etiquette and safety of the game.

Sunday June 26 and Sunday July 10 1:00-3:00 pm \$35.00 Bow Resident and \$40.00 Non Resident

Please register at Parks & Rec for this workshop.



Looking to try something fun and healthy at the same time? Lose weight while dancing to salsa, flamenco and meringue music!

Come try Tracey Beaulieu's FREE ZUMBA Open House class on June 28th at 5:45 pm at the Bow Community Building.

Contact Bow Parks & Rec for more information.