

# UNDER THE STARS

**FORGOT TO BOOK A HOTEL? NO PROBLEM; TODAY'S TENTS OFFER FIVE-STAR COMFORT**

LOOKING FOR A ROOM with a different view? Then get a tent this summer as camping is enjoying a renaissance. Gone are the days of "roughing it". Many campsites have been upgraded and now boast excellent facilities and tents have had a makeover. Comfort and style are now all the rage so tents feel like a home away from home. If you want to step away from the norm, though, there are some more unusual alternatives that will not only bring out your inner Ray Mears but also the Native American Indian in you.



#### ULTIMATE DWELLING

For centuries, nomads in Central Asia have been living in the most practical temporary dwelling available: yurts. These

portable and easy-to-erect structures are ideal for camping. The yurt is insulated to keep you warm, but the sides can be rolled up to let fresh air in. On clear nights you can even leave the

roof open and lie under the stars. Buy your own ([www.woodlandyurts.co.uk](http://www.woodlandyurts.co.uk)) or head to one of the pre-erected yurt sites which are springing up in various idyllic settings from Devon ([www.devonyurtholidays.co.uk](http://www.devonyurtholidays.co.uk)) to Spain ([www.yurthotel.com](http://www.yurthotel.com)).



#### TOP TEEPEES

Want to camp in style at this summer's various music festivals and enjoy the thrill of being able to find

your tent among the throng? Then try a teepee. These conical tents were originally used by Native American Indians, who were always on the move and needed highly mobile homes as they crossed the Great Plains. Easy to assemble and designed to resist wind, teepees are waterproof and have a large communal space inside. Visit [www.wigwamsam.co.uk](http://www.wigwamsam.co.uk) for further information.



#### PITCH PERFECT

If you'd rather stick to what you know, make sure you step out with the latest in tent technology. The Halo tent by

Terra Nova ([www.terra-nova.co.uk](http://www.terra-nova.co.uk)) is a spacious, rigid structure, which offers great stability and promises to accommodate your family in style, whatever its size. You can even add additional bedrooms once it has been pitched, so you won't be caught out if you have unexpected guests.