USA TODAY TRAVEL

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MOUNTAIN HIGHS

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IN-TENTS LUXURY
Experience glamping in Montana

Among the options at Under Canvas Yellowstone is the Deluxe tent, with an en suite bathroom and adjacent teepee for the kids. AMELIA ANNE PHOTOGRAPHY

Stacey Zable, Special to USA TODAY

For a different lodging experience in Montana, The Resort at Paws Up in Greenough and Under Canvas Yellowstone in West Yellowstone offer the luxury camping experience known as glamping. You still get to embrace the beauty of the great outdoors within the magnificent Big Sky landscape, but instead of spending the night in sleeping bags, building fires with sticks and eating food out of cans, you enjoy upscale comforts like climate-controlled tents, king-size beds and bathrooms with heated floors. The resorts also offer a variety of outdoor thrills — hiking, archery, whitewater rafting and more — that can be paired with the overnight adventures. See GLAMPING, Page 52
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The Resort at Paws Up
A 37,000-acre ranch with 10 miles of Blackfoot River frontage is your playground when you stay in one of this resort’s 36 glamping tents, which are spread among six camp areas. Glamping is available at the resort from mid-May through mid-October. Rates include free round-trip transportation from Missoula International Airport 35 miles away.

One-, two- and three-bedroom tents are available, offering electricity, Western-chic furniture, private decks, ensuite bathrooms with heated floors (two for three-bedroom tents), air conditioning and heat. Each camp has a butler for such tasks as starting the nightly bonfire (with s'mores) to helping plan your daily itinerary. Steps from each tent is a Dining Pavilion, where breakfast and dinner are served daily. Lunch is at Trough, the resort’s casual dining restaurant located in the Village at Paws Up. All meals and nonalcoholic beverages, as well as specially selected wine, beer and well drinks with lunch and dinner, are included in the nightly rate.

Under Canvas Yellowstone offers claw-foot tubs in some tents. STEPHANIE RUSSO

“We’ve seen more and more families and couples turned on to glamping as a way of traveling, as it allows them to experience the country in its natural setting,” says Steve Hurst, general manager at The Resort at Paws Up. “It’s incredible that my job is to try and match that elevated outdoor experience with an over-the-top guest service environment.”

A past guest wrote of the experience this way: “Despite the luxe trappings, the soul of camping remains intact at Paws Up. Personal connections, unplugging, group experiences, recharging, fun — these are the reasons people venture so far from home, comforts intact.”

Each of the six camps has its own vibe. For example, Moonlight Camp offers family games and activities, complimentary mountain bikes and evening horse-drawn wagon rides. River Camp has a game room with table tennis, foosball, video games and a play area for young children. North Bank Camp is the most secluded, with each tent offering a river view and a spacious deck suspended over the slope.

The Resort at Paws Up has more than 100 miles of hiking, mountain biking, horse and ATV trails. Many outdoor activities are included in the glamping rate, such as archery, geocaching, nature hikes, pogo rides and fishing. On-site at the resort is also Spa Town at Paws Up, featuring its own tents with full baths and heated massage tables.

Under Canvas Yellowstone
Company founders Sarah and Jacob Dusek were inspired by the African safari experience when they created Under Canvas all-inclusive glamping adventures. Under Canvas Yellowstone, one of seven sites in the USA, boasts 75 tents located only 10 minutes from the west entrance of Yellowstone National Park. The glamping tents feature king-size beds, sleeper sofas, en suite bathrooms and wood-burning stoves, and many have private decks. Some even have claw-foot tubs for a deep soak after an active day.

All the tents can sleep up to four.

One guest, Jowanda Collins, describes Under Canvas Yellowstone as “perfection.” She adds, “Great amenities, beautiful surroundings and loved our lodging. Just two girls, our canvas tent and this breathtaking location. Plus, there’s a fabulous restaurant!”

Packages can include a host of outdoor adventures, including private hikes and helicopter tours, fly-fishing, white-water rafting, kayaking, horseback riding, in-tent massages, meals at the onsite restaurant and picnic lunches on the go. Activities also include ziplining, mountain biking and multi-day expeditions into Yellowstone National Park to experience its wildlife and geothermal wonders. Under Canvas Yellowstone offers glamping from the end of May to the beginning of September.