

## Luxe camping amenities lure vacationers — even those averse to the outdoors



Source: Conestoga Ranch Glamping Resort.
Conestoga Ranch Glamping Resort.

If you like the idea of camping — but not the part that involves figuring out how to build and light a fire, sleeping on the ground and peeing in the woods — then "glamping" may be for you.

The awkward yet accurate term covers a fast-growing list of "glamorous camping" venues. They replace traditional tents and outhouses with accommodations including real beds and swanky amenities — everything from "yurts [circular tents], teepees and airstreams to treehouses, cabins, cubes, pods, domes, ecolodges and huts," said Linda Clark of luxury camping website Glamping.com.

With campfire valets, claw-foot soaking tubs, down comforters and concierge services, some glamping sites in the woods offer more comfortable accommodations than some posh boutique hotels. One service, Babierge.com, will rent, deliver and set up high-end baby gear at campgrounds.

## Camping butlers and an on-site S'moreologist



Source: The Resort at Paws Up
The Resort at Paws Up in Montana.

In Montana, The Resort at Paws Up is a pioneer in the glamping field that has been upping the ante for the past 12 years. Amenities range from "camping butlers" to a resident "S'moreologist" tasked with prepping the perfect campfire snack.

This year's additions are three-bedroom, two bathroom glamping tents in the North Bank Camp, with high-end linens, heated floors, a camp chef and a butler.

"When you only have a few weeks of vacation a year, you want them to include good food, good wines, creature comforts, luxury and atmosphere, so that when you return to the daily grind you are rested and don't feel like you need another vacation," recent guest Dana Koenig wrote in an email to CNBC. The memories and amenities are "well worth it, and then some."

North Bank Camp's three-bedroom tent will set vacationers back at least \$3,500, including a 20 percent resort fee. That steep price includes meals, transportation to/from the airport, Wi-Fi and other recreational activities.