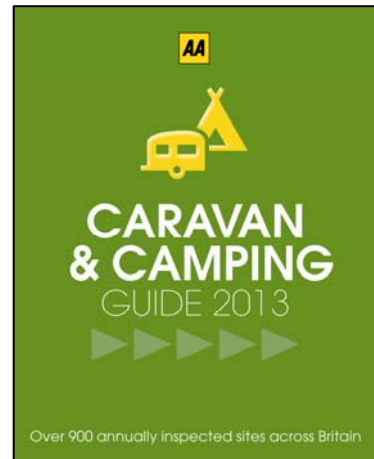




AA ANNOUNCES CAMPSITE OF THE YEAR FOR BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Somerset campsite wins AA Award

The AA today has announced the winners of the AA Campsite of the Year Awards for Britain and Ireland to coincide with the launch of the *AA Caravan and Camping Britain and Ireland Guide 2013*. This year's winner is The Old Oaks Touring Park in Glastonbury, Somerset.



The award winning sites have all shown exceptional quality and attention to detail, making their parks stand out above the rest. The AA Campsite of the Year Award winners for 2013 are:

AA Best Campsite of the Year

England and Overall Winner – The Old Oaks Touring Park, Glastonbury, Somerset

Scotland – Milton of Fonab Caravan Site, Pitlochry, Perth and Kinross

Wales – Caerfai Bay Caravan and Tent Park, St David's, Pembrokeshire

The Roger Almond Award* for the AA's Most Improved Campsite

Hollins Farm Camping and Caravanning, Far Arnside, Lancashire

Holiday Centre – Freshwater Beach Holiday Park, Bridport, Dorset

In addition to the national awards the AA recognises five regional winners. **The Regional AA Campsite of the Year Award winners** for 2013 are:

South West England – Carnon Downs Caravan and Camping Park, Truro, Cornwall

South East England – Kloofs Caravan Park, Bexhill, East Sussex

Heart of England – Woodhall Country Park, Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire

North West England – Lamb Cottage Caravan Park, Whitegate, Cheshire

North East England – Vale of Pickering Caravan Park, Allerston, North Yorkshire

Details of all the award-winning sites can be found in the new *AA Caravan and Camping Britain and Ireland Guide 2013*. The guide features over 900 annually inspected and rated sites giving details of location, AA Pennant rating**, contact details, prices, opening times and a description as well as local information.

David Hancock, editor of the guide, commented, "I wish to congratulate all our winners who have been awarded in recognition of exceptional quality and attention to detail across their parks and who are included in a feature in the *AA Caravan & Camping Britain and Ireland Guide 2013*. Camping is such a popular and cost effective holiday choice and it is great to see that so many sites are not only meeting but often exceeding visitors' expectations."

The 2013 Guide also has a useful section of 'Best for...' giving detail the sites the AA believe are best for a variety of different features such as waterside pitches, stunning views, on-site restaurants, fishing and the kids. Those who are looking for something a little different, the list has details of the best for being eco- friendly, glamping, yurts, tipis, safari tent or even a shepherd's hut.

A weekend away in a shepherd's hut is the focus of one of the features in the guide, with another detailing an account of an inspector who helped run a

campsite during a busy August weekend, and the final feature explains how campsites are going green.

The AA also offers the AA Camping Card Scheme for 2013. With the AA Camping Card, users will qualify for reduced rates at participating sites. Card holders will simply need to state that they are using an AA Camping Card when they phone to book a site and show the card on arrival. The types of discounts vary from site to site, details of which will be given when contacting the site. An AA Camping Card is included in every *AA Caravan and Camping Britain and Ireland Guide 2013*.

The *AA Caravan and Camping Britain and Ireland Guide 2013* is available from [The AA Shop](#) for £9.99 and as an app for iPhone, iPad and Android.

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For information or to request a review copy please contact AA Press Office on 01256 492895 or press.office@theaa.com

* Named after Roger Almond, the AA's Senior Campsite Inspector, with over 20 years of service, who sadly passed away in 2009 following a battle with cancer.

**The AA's Pennant ratings

Caravan parks and campsites are inspected and rated using a one to five Pennant rating. This is an assessment of various factors including customer care and hospitality, toilet facilities and park landscaping, based on the inspector's experienced opinion. The percentage score runs from 50% to 100%, and indicates the relative quality of parks with the same number of pennants. The Pennant ratings increase with the quality and variety of facilities a park offers. The top level is classified as a Five Pennant Premier Park.

The AA Pennant rating is only based on the touring pitches and the facilities at campsites and caravan parks. AA inspectors do not visit or report on rented static caravans or chalets.

For further information on AA Pennant ratings visit
http://www.theaa.com/travel_editorial/hotel_services_caravan_camping_scheme.html

Old Oaks Touring Park, Glastonbury

The attention to detail at this adult only site is exceptional in all areas and the overall quality is stunning, earning it the highest Quality Score in the 2013 Guide. Set on a working farm close to Glastonbury Tor, Old Oaks has stunning views towards the Mendip Hills. The park caters for caravans, motorhomes and tents and has several luxury camping cabins for hire. The park is divided up into several beautifully landscaped areas with the spacious super pitches being very luxurious. The new state of the art toilet block adds the quality features of this site.

Milton of Fonab Caravan Site, Pitlochry

Set on the banks of the River Tummel with views of the Tummel Valley and surrounding hills and just a short walk from Pitlochry the Milton of Fonab Caravan site is the ideal base from which to tour Scotland. Visitors can expect excellent facilities far in excess of requirements including free Wi-fi. Beautifully maintained grounds enhance the tranquil and spacious feel of this traditional campsite.

Caerfai Bay Caravan and Tent Park, St David's

Magnificent coastal scenery and an outlook over St Bride's Bay can be enjoyed from this delightful site set high on the cliffs beside the Pembrokeshire Coastal Path near St David's. Being just 300 yards from a glorious bathing beach this site is ideal for families. The facilities are first class including a geo-thermal underground water heating system providing piping hot water to the toilet block and a new amenity block housing the laundrette, dishwashing and information/rest room. Everything is thought of here from a solar heated wet suit shower room to lockers for phone charging.

Carnon Downs Caravan and Camping Park, Truro

Set in 33 acres of meadowland and woodland close to the village amenities of Carnon Downs and within easy reach of the magnificent beaches of both north and south Cornwall, this site is perfect for exploring Cornwall. With numerous hedged paddocks offering over 100 fully serviced hardstanding

pitches nothing has been forgotten. There are four modern toilet blocks, an exciting children's play area, a football pitch and good walks through adjoining bluebell woods.

Kloofs Caravan Park, Bexhill

Kloofs is a friendly, family-run park surrounded by farmland and oak woodlands with views extending to the South Downs from the prime hilltop pitches. Each pitch has a mini patio, bench and barbecue stand and some are fully serviced and large enough to accommodate American-style RVs. Facilities are spotless and upmarket and include a dog shower, drying room and a dishwasher.

Woodhall Country Park, Woodhall Spa

This touring park is just two years old and the owners have spared no expense in transforming part of the woodland area into a country side retreat for campers who wish to escape the hectic lifestyle. The 'back to nature' experience is enhanced by the strong ethos towards sustainability. Visitors can enjoy fully serviced pitches set amongst mature trees and lush, well screened tent pitches as well as a bird hide, camping pods, a fishing lake and three superb log cabin amenity blocks.

Lamb Cottage Caravan Park, Whitegate

Located close to historic Chester this all-level park provides lush grassed spacious touring pitches within beautifully landscaped hedge-screened areas. The amenity block has the wow factor with superb modern fixtures and fittings. Peace and tranquillity are assured with just the dovecot's residents being the only welcome distraction.

Vale of Pickering Caravan Park, Allerston

Peacefully located east of Pickering and within easy reach of the North York Moors and Scarborough this spacious family park offers lush grassed touring areas in beautifully landscaped surroundings. A woodland walk is an additional benefit and children of all ages are offered a choice of play

equipment and a ball games field. The facilities are equipped with modern, efficient fittings and customer care is a real strength.

Freshwater Beach Holiday Park, Bridport

This well managed, family run holiday centre really does offer the perfect place to take the family. The touring area is spacious and facilities are well appointed. The park benefits from its own private beach as well as indoor and outdoor pools. The new Jurassic Fun Centre includes indoor pools with water slides, a gym, sauna, hot tub, 10 pin bowling, bar and restaurant.

Hollins Farm Camping and Caravaning, Far Arnside

In the past few years the touring areas at Hollins Farm have been completely transformed with all aspects of the campsite being seriously upgraded to modern-day expectations yet without losing the traditional 'back to nature' feel of a farm campsite. Children can be entertained by the farm animals and chickens that roam the site plus visitors have full use of the leisure and entertainment facilities at Silverdale Holiday Park just a five minute walk away. The new amenity block was built from local stone designed to blend in with the surrounding countryside and benefits from a superb interior including underfloor heating.