
The 10 best waterside campsites

If a waterside campsite floats your boat, Joanne O'Connor has a scenic selection

Joanne O'Connor
The Guardian, Saturday 16 April 2011
[Article history](#)



Kynance Cove, The Lizard Peninsula, Cornwall, England. Photograph: Alamy

Hurley Lock Maidenhead, Berkshire

For a real sense of adventure just a short hop from the capital, nothing beats camping on an island in the river Thames.

Several of the locks on the upper reaches of the Thames are home to small, simple campsites overseen by the lock-keeper, often accessible only by boat or on foot. Hurley Lock is an attractive and bustling spot with boats navigating the lock, kayakers paddling in the white water of the weir and children splashing about on dinghies in the shallows. The river separates into several channels at this point and one of the islands has been set aside for campers, with just 10 pitches.

The village of Hurley has a handful of appealing pubs, including the Olde Bell, a low-beamed inn hung with copper kettles, parts of which date back to the 12th century. It's just a short stroll back across the footbridge to your island but it feels like you've travelled much further when dusk falls, when the pleasure craft disappear and the peace is disturbed only by the flapping of herons taking off.

Apr–Sep; £8 per pitch per night; 01628 824334