2016 Tent Owner Satisfaction Awards

Best tents over £300

Winner: Karsten 350

Highly Commended: Cabanon Classic range Highly Commended: Outwell Sun Collection

Note 1: These are grouped by brand and range (but not model level). We did not go down to individual models here because samples sizes would have been too small. Most of the ranges here include tents retailing at under £300.



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Note 2. Our results are based on prices paid, not manufacturers' recommended selling prices.

You might expect those who pay more for their tents to have higher expectations... and maybe more criticisms if things go wrong. It's the opposite here, our top two both scoring perfect 10s.

And once again, all our winners are cotton or polycotton tent ranges.

We gave the nudge to Karsten's 350, based on a higher number of responses. A forerunner of the increasingly popular inflatable models from more mainstream manufacturers that are now available, the Karsten is also extremely flexible in that additions such as a rain awning, extensions and more can be added (either at the time of purchase or a later date).

Cabanon's Classic range is made of what the manufacturer calls 'Canadian' tent shapes, and 'Pyramid' style, and the Cabanon Gaudeloupe is by far the most popular individual tent. It also makes tunnel tents.

A slight surprise was the next highest rating – Outwell's Sun Collection. That's because this was only ever a small range of tents in bright orange polycotton that was introduced in 2011 and discontinued after 2013. Closest equivalents now are in the Regency Collection – albeit in far more conservative colours!

The rest of the top ten here all scored satisfaction ratings above nine. They were: Robens Outback, with 9.69; Vango Genesis (9.60); Outwell Classic Collection (9.47); BellTent's Ultimates (9.40); Kampa's Endurance range (9.40); Outwell's Regency Collection (9.36); and Khyam's Chatsworths, with 9.33. Of these, only the Vango, Kampa and Khyam tents have polyester flysheets – again, cotton and polycotton dominate here.

Interesting, the next nine spots were all taken by Outwell (Deluxe Mocca, Superior, Premium, Deluxe, Privilege) and Vango (Infinity, Evoque, Nadina and Capri) ranges, with Robens' Adventure models coming in at number 20.

Brand	Range	Mean
Karsten	350	10.00
Cabanon	Classic range	10.00
Outwell	Sun range	9.86
Robens	Outback range	9.69
Vango	Genesis range	9.60

Outwell	Classic range	9.47
BellTent	Ultimate range	9.40
Kampa	Endurance range	9.40
Outwell	Regency range	9.36
Khyam	Chatsworth	9.33

You said...

Outwell Premium Montana 6 (Top 20)

"The size was the biggest factor. Steel poles for endurance and the way it is fully enclosed. Also because of how light it is inside the tent it doesn't feel claustrophobic."

Outwell Premium Montana 6 (Top 20)

"Was camping in Canterbury in the summer on the Camping and Caravanning Club Site and saw the Montana and was really impressed. It was owned by one of the wardens and we asked him about it. He was most informative and showed me round it. His guidance and the quality of the product really impressed me, so my wife and I decided we would invest on one. It is a wonderful tent."

Cabanon Biscaya

"Liked the look of it, plus not many guy lines. Quite easy to pitch good quality and good brand."