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The roomy and airy living space



Outdoor Revolution Camp Star 500XL

Iain Geddes takes a first look at a new-for-2021 family tent bundle from Outdoor Revolution

Sometimes you come across a product that's hard to fault and from my first impressions, the Camp Star 500XL is one of them. It seems to tick all the boxes for easy family camping without having to break the bank.

We pitched on a very windy day, in the usual fashion – by rolling out the whole tent (it pitches as one), pegging down the perimeter of the flysheet and guessing where a few of the windward facing guys would be – pegging out a couple, just in case.

The four tubes in the frame inflate independently with a pump that's supplied with the tent package. Even though we took our time to make sure everything was secure, the tent was pitched in around 15 minutes, a little longer than suggested by Outdoor Revolution but I can believe it could take less than ten minutes on a still day.

The grey of the flysheet may not suit everyone. Perhaps it's my age, but I prefer it to very bold colours that perhaps

sit better with festival and expedition tents. The neutral colour doesn't cast an odd hue on things when you're sitting inside.


The air tubes have a subtle pre-bend in them to form a roof profile that offers reasonable standing room throughout, but with enough slope in the sides to help mitigate wind buffeting.

When you're inside there's a lot of window to look out from and a light airy feel. A sewn-in groundsheet is in the central living space and the fitted front porch section has a removable groundsheet, which can be handy when it's a bit wet. The roll-up curtains are easy to use and the side entrance has a

mesh panel to enhance airflow on hotter days. You can also extend the space with optional side and front porches.

The sleeping cabins are dark, which is great for the lighter sleepers and young children who always seem to spring out of bed at sun-up when camping.

Though it will sleep five, this is dependent on what sort of beds you use. I'd expect a family of four to be comfortably accommodated here and with the good ventilation they should feel comfortable too.

The Camp Star 500XL is supplied with a pump, footprint and carpet, so this sensibly-priced tent is ready to go straight out of the bag. 

At a glance

Guide price
£650 (available spring 2021)

Sleeps Five

Dimensions
Outer 6m x 3.3m; inner 2.1m x 3.2m (divided in two 2.1m x 1.8m and 2.1m x 1.3m)

Weight 26.8kg

Packed size
83cm x 54cm x 48cm

Maximum head-height 2.05m

Materials Outer polyester; inner breathable polyester; groundsheet polyethylene; air tubes

For more information
outdoor-revolution.com



▲ Clockwise from top left: The tent was reassuringly stable on a windy day; there are good sized windows to peer out of; the Camp Star features a zip-up mesh door for added ventilation; inflation vents are quite low down

