

## Why my snowy Cotswolds camping holiday was worth the wait

The crowds have returned to the famously beautiful Cotswolds, but it's the simple things that will delight holidaymakers this summer

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What became clear throughout the day was that while we've all been sitting at home, waiting to return to the pub or our favourite bar, hundreds of tourism and hospitality businesses have actually been incredibly busy and exciting new things are afoot. At the Lygon, they've taken time to refine their dog-friendly offering for those thousands of us who got puppies during lockdown (our two snoozed happily in the outdoor dog beds made by their partner Le Chameau). And at the Swan Inn at Ascott-under-Wychwood, they've invested in an outdoor kitchen and pizza oven that'll see crowds flock to their beautiful beer garden throughout summer.

I stuffed my face with their famously rich toad-in-the-hole while the family on the next table told me of their delight in returning to their local. All the excitement and jubilation was utterly infectious, but the thing that really sparked joy in me wasn't the beautiful bucolic scenery of the Cotswolds or the picturesque golden stone that almost every house and hotel is built from. Instead, it was the simple knowledge that as the waiting staff took away our plates, it wasn't me who would be doing the washing up for once.