



CenterParcs

Center Parcs' Treehouse Competition

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**Treehouses are
springing up across the
nation as the UK's Top**

Treehouse finalists are revealed

Ten impressive treehouses are still in the running towards becoming the UK's Top Treehouse, as head judge and adventurer Steve Backshall reveals the shortlist for Center Parcs' nationwide search.

- With recent research showing that over half (58%) of today's children would rather have a treehouse than the latest game console, families across the UK were challenged to share their amateur treehouses on social media. The competition, which has garnered entries from all over the country, was launched to mark the arrival of four brand new Treehouses at Center Parcs, Elveden Forest in Suffolk.
- The ten treehouses left in the competition cover an eclectic range of designs and budgets, from canopy-grazing look-outs to homely imagination-dens nestled in the lower branches.
- One of the shortlisted entries will now go on to claim the coveted title, winning the family a short break in one of Center Parcs' luxury Treehouses.

Top 10 finalists (in no particular order)

Brown Family, North Newington, Oxfordshire

A collaboration between father, Nick Brown, an F1 engineer, and his son William (9) with a little help from wife Jess.

Hardman Family, Thornham Magna, Suffolk

Completed within just four months by dad Ryan, a fencer, with the creative control of his two boys Charlie (8) and Teddy (4).

Alcorn Family, West Bridgford, Nottinghamshire

Created by Ian Alcorn, with the help of children Lola (8) and William (4), and nephews Arlo (10 months) and Grayson (2).

Jones Family, Ellesmere, Cheshire

Guided by their grandfather Martin, Charlie (7) and Holly (3), spent weeks creating the perfect treehouse that they could spend hours playing in with their friends and family.

Jennings Family, Taverham, Norwich

A joint collaboration between daughter Ruby (6) and dad Matthew, taking inspiration from 'The Faraway Tree'.

Izod Family, Grantham, Lincolnshire

Built by dad Paul, a registered nurse and his three children, Jasmine (9) Reuben (6) and Caitlin (3).

Moran Family, Basildon, Essex

Built in May 2013 by dad, Martin Moran, alongside his wife Nicky and children Izzy and Jake – who were then aged 10 and 6.

Hall Family, Tiptree, Essex

In 1995 Charlotte Hall built her dream treehouse with the help of her grandfather Brian, and cousin Jarod.

Carroll Family, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire

A construction project headed up by dad, John, and daughters Phoebe (5) and four-year-old Daisy with help from family-friend, James Mills.

Steve Backshall, famed for his adventure and wildlife programmes, joins a panel of judges including Center Parcs' 'Chief Treehouse Builder' Tom Courtney and CEO of Center Parcs, Martin Dalby to decide on a winner.

Martin Dalby, CEO of Center Parcs said *"I do like to spend my spare time working with wood in my own workshop at home so being asked to be a judge for this competition has been a real privilege. The quality of the treehouses entered has been absolutely fantastic and it's been great to see that families have spent time together building, decorating and enjoying them."*

"The winning entry of course needs to be impressive in terms of the build and look, but it was just as important for us to hear the stories and see how the treehouses really represent the families who built them. Choosing the winner is going to be tough!"

Tom Courtney, Chief Treehouse Builder said *"There have been some great creations which not only look great but also say a lot about the families who have worked hard to make them. I've been really impressed with the attention to detail like the roofing materials, decorations, access ideas, windows and other little touches. A lot of love has gone into these, you can tell."*

Entries can be viewed on twitter using the hashtag #UKTopTreehouse and

Notes to Editors

1. Center Parcs has five Villages across the UK; Sherwood Forest in Nottinghamshire, Elveden Forest in Suffolk, Longleat Forest in Wiltshire, Whinell Forest in Cumbria and Woburn Forest in Bedfordshire which opened to guests on 6 June 2014
2. As the leader in the UK short break holiday market, Center Parcs regularly achieves average annual occupancy in excess of 97%
3. Center Parcs offers weekend, (Friday to Monday) or midweek (Monday to Friday) breaks and welcomes over 2 million guests each year, with 96% of guests expressing an intention to return
4. The Center Parcs concept is to provide a range of high quality accommodation, shops, restaurants and exceptional leisure facilities, carefully nestled amongst 400 acres of protected forest environment
5. This concept originated in Holland in 1967, with the first UK Center Parcs opening in 1987. Center Parcs is now a separate entity in the UK
6. Center Parcs has been awarded the following accolades since 2008: the Green Business Award for Biodiversity Protection, Visit Britain 5 Star Rating, Hospitality Assured, Biodiversity Benchmark - Land Management, Carbon Trust Standard, Good Spa Guide Award, ISO14001, Investors in People
7. Center Parcs has recently been announced '[Best Family Holiday Provider](#)' in the Tommy's Awards for the eleventh year in a row

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