

# My Glamping Experience at Feather Down Farms

Next to the calves in the same barn the fragrance of fresh hay was replaced by the scent of freshly cut wood and wood chips. We loaded our cart with wood and it hit me that the next phase would be our ability to make a fire and cook on a wood burning stove. Thank goodness my husband spend time in the wilderness and volunteered to make the fire which most definitely made my [glamping introduction](#) at Feather Down Farms warm and comfortable.



© Feather Down Farm, the cows have right of way

On the way back from the calf coddling session and after selecting our precious wood, we stopped in another barn where we heard squeaking, cackling, and clucking tones. And there they were, a family of guinea pigs scrambling around in one pen probably exchanging messages that another set of humans were on board.

The other pens in the petting barn included rabbits, and yet another where hens bobbed their necks as they walked and would hopefully lay some fresh eggs. If not, I'd just pick some up in the Honesty Shop and note down the quantity.



The Honesty Shop  
(General store)

This [Feather Down farm in Holland](#) encourages you to get in touch with the animals and the children and parents did just that by sitting on wooden benches petting, feeding, and watching the furry little companions scurry around.

From the petting barn, we meandered our way through the trees and vegetation along the short route where beautiful sounds of the *forest* entertained us. Birds, owls, and the sounds of my Wellies stomping on wet fresh fallen leaves quickly got me in the mood to enjoy nature if just for a long weekend.

The final stop was our tent where we'd be roughing it for the next 72 hours. Well, not exactly because it's glamping after all.

In front of the tent our vacation pet 'Hasi' as we named him was waiting in his pen. We took care of the rabbit (for a small fee) and treated him as our own pet—feeding and petting him during our stay.



Vacation rabbit from our Feather Down Farms vacation

Our hostess presented us the tent basics such the wooden cool box, wood burning stove, bio-toilet (that actually flushes), sleeping quarters accompanied with thick comforters, and lastly running water. What else can a girl ask for?

### **The Experience**

Once alone in our tent, I seriously wondered if I could make it for the next 3 days without the ability to turn on the light switch and turn the stove knob to boil water. There was no turning back (although my husband asked about checking into the hotel in the next village). We quickly divided up our tasks to which included, lighting, heating, sleeping, unpacking the perishables, and preparing a warm evening meal.

The Feather Down Farms info sheet includes instructions on starting a fire, but my handy husband didn't need it. He checked the damper air flow, placed the primary and secondary wood pieces in the stove, and later added a piece of coal to keep the fire burning for longer than normal, and in a few minutes it was roaring. By that time I had finished making the beds and organized our belongings.



© Feather Down Farm tent interior

Next challenge would be preparing a meal. No it wouldn't because this planner girl had cooked a Sweet Potato Thai Curry chicken Soup ahead of time. The slightly frozen soup heated up quickly and within a few minutes, we were enjoying a bowl of delicious hot soup in the candlelight, with kerosene lanterns, and a few flashlights to brighten the dimly lit tent.

### **Insider Tip #2**

Everyone in your party, including the children should have their own flashlight with fresh batteries, in order to find their way around the tent and farm surroundings. We even slept with our flashlights because there are no windows in the bedrooms. In addition, I'd recommend a clip lamp for the bathroom.



Soup cooked on Feather Down farm wood burning stove

After a second helping of soup, we rinsed and dried our dishes

using the bio-cleanser and towels included in the tent fee and scratched our heads wondering what we should do next. It was raining cats and dogs, so a walk in the forest was out of the question. At 7:00 PM it was too soon to go to bed, so being the planner I am, I dug out the game bag of Banagrams, Uno, Monopoly, and more.

After a rambling round of games we carried our lit flashlights to the master bedroom in the back of the tent and would hopefully enjoy a restful night of sleep dreaming about what would be in store our first glamping morning.