

TIE-DYE HEAVEN
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In the extreme heat of the day at the recent Blissfest Music Festival, when full sun and 90-plus degree heat was not something I needed, I would wander the dozens of trails deep in the woods where thousands of folks were camping. Although it was also warm in the woods (like bathwater), it was cooler than the solar oven outside. I meandered slowly along the paths, and took along my camera.

What struck me was the care and attention to detail that went into many of the campsites. Of courses there were (certainly) many thousands of single dome tents scattered through the woods. Then there were pairs, bunches, and whole clusters of tents all grouped together and sharing a common central space.

Many group camps were walled in with colorful spreads and tie-dyed fabrics, effectively creating a compound. And there were others with doorways and walls of interwoven sticks and branches, sometimes even hallways and extended walkways into their compound.

As I mentioned, the day was hot and I had all the time in the world to keep out of the sun and just meander through this extended village of campers. I was perhaps a little conspicuous with my camera gear, but everyone greeted me warmly. I could see from the look in many of their eyes that many would like me to photograph something in the campsite, and I tried to oblige.

Here are just a few of the hundreds of banners, flags, bedspreads, batiks, tie-dyes, etc. that celebrated Blissfest in the camping area. Enjoy.



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