

REAL SIMPLE

The 12 Best Beach Canopies, Tents, and Umbrellas of 2023, Tested and Reviewed

We tested 21 popular models to find the best shade for beach days.

By **Nor'adila Hepburn** | Published on May 2, 2023

If you're looking for a way to stay safe and shaded from UV rays while you're at the beach (not to mention relax while enjoying a little sun, sand, and sea), a beach shade is worth the investment. Popular options like canopies, tents, and umbrellas might seem like a hassle to carry, but many models these days are lightweight and can be carried on your back or by hand.

“A quality canopy will add hours of enjoyment to camping, fishing, festivals, and events by providing occasional escapes from the sun,” says Jim Browder, a travel expert and executive director of the Crystal Coast Tourism Development Authority.

To help you find the best beach shade products, we tested 21 beach canopies, tents, and umbrellas and assessed them on portability, ease of use, performance, durability, and overall value. We also spoke to Jim Browder, a travel expert and executive director of the Crystal Coast Tourism Development Authority on how to pick the right beach canopy for your next trip.

Our Top Picks

BEST OVERALL BEACH CANOPY:

[Shibumi Shade at Amazon](#)

↓ [Jump to Review](#)

Best Overall Beach Canopy: Shibumi Shade

★★★★★ 4.6



PHOTO: AMAZON

[View On Amazon](#) | \$290

[View On Shibumishade.com](#)

Our Ratings

Portability **5/5** Ease of Use **4/5** Performance **5/5** Durability **5/5**
Quality **5/5**

What Stands Out: This shade is impressively wind-resistant and features an open design.

What Could Be Improved: It has a hefty price tag.

If you're looking for a super lightweight shade for your next beach excursion, the [Shibumi Shade is worth checking out](#). It weighs just four pounds and requires zero tools to set up—the entire setup (and takedown) process took under three minutes. Even if you're setting the Shibumi by yourself, it shouldn't be too hard. That being said, putting it back in the bag proved a little tricky since we didn't want the poles to rip the shade.

In terms of design, this canopy is waterproof and comes with UPF 50+ sun protection. It offers 150 square feet of shade, which is enough cover for 5 to 6 people. Unlike typical beach tents, the Shibumi Shade features a completely open design, so you have a 360-degree view and can feel the breeze from all directions. We were delighted that the Shibumi Shade stayed secure and did not blow away, even in high winds. In fact, we didn't even need to adjust it throughout the day, which was surprising.

The biggest downside, though, is the extremely high price. While it's undeniably a fabulous product that should hold up well for many years, it's best for people who spend a lot of time at the beach—casual beach-goers probably can't justify the high price.

Price at time of publish: \$290

Product Details:

- **Material:** Recycled polyester, hard-anodized aluminum
- **Size:** 27 x 4 x 4 inches
- **Weight:** 4 pounds
- **Capacity:** 5-6 people