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Gadling Gear Review
Featuring: Raptor 14
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I have a bit of a fetish for daypacks and, as such, I've become quite particular about what I like and what annoys the heck out of me. That's why I was so excited to try out my new Osprey Raptor 14 on a recent trip to Zion National Park. With temperatures pushing 100°F, hikes lasting hours and the air as dry as a bone, it's incredibly important that you have the right supplies and that you're comfortable throughout your time on the trails.

Did the Raptor 14 live up to Osprey's reputation? The Raptor 14 has a 14L volume (duh), so it's neither a tiny scramble pack nor a large daypack. Even with its 3L reservoir full of water, there is still plenty of room in the pack for other supplies. Osprey packs always feature impeccable construction and the Raptor 14 is no different. It feels indestructible. The reservoir is held snug and I never felt any sloshing around when I was hiking. The Raptor series utilizes Osprey's AirScape suspension system, which helps distribute weight evenly and allows for airflow so that your back doesn't become a sweaty mess. The reservoir is a 3L Nalgene bladder. It has a bite valve, which I love, and clips magnetically to the harness so that it's always conveniently located and never dangling annoyingly. The handle on the reservoir makes removing, filling and repacking the bladder significantly less awkward than with other hydration devices and is a simple feature that makes a huge difference.



While the \$109 price tag certainly is steep, the lifetime guarantee ensures that you'll get your money's worth from the Raptor 14 for years to come. It's built for aggressive outdoor use but is plenty comfortable for even the most casual adventurer.

Would I recommend the Raptor 14?
Absolutely.

