



The Adventure Blog

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Gear Closet

Featuring: Atmos 50

URL: <http://tinyurl.com/7syjz2v>



One of my all-time favorite pieces of gear is my Osprey Atmos 50 backpack. I love it so much that I've taken it with me on trips to six continents and it has always served me well. It is the perfect size to fit in most overhead compartments and yet still carry all the gear you need for an extended trip. My Atmos has been up mountains, across deserts and down rivers, and while it has a few battle scars it remains in great condition and always ready for a new adventure. Turns out the new Atmos 50 is a refined product that takes everything I loved about the first iteration and tweaks it in some important, yet subtle, ways that makes it an even better pack.

Designed for traveling and backpacking light, the Atmos offers plenty of storage options for packing all of our necessary gear. In addition to the spacious main compartment, the bag also has a floating pocket in the lid, two hip pockets on the belt, an adjustable stretch pocket on the front and two large zippered side pockets that remain one of my favorite holdovers from the previous design. Better yet, those two pockets have been more subtly integrated into the design and are larger than on my older model Atmos. The new Atmos has adjustable straps and belts that make it even easier to find the perfect fit and the new adjust-on-the-fly hip belt and harness are welcome additions. In the 2012 edition of the pack Osprey has updated the design once again and just like everything else about this new bag, the evolutionary upgrade improves upon the original. The new suspension allows for more airflow while still remaining comfortable to wear over extended periods of time. We may never see a suspension system that keeps us perfectly cool while on the trail, but the new AirSpeed suspension is a solid step in the right direction. Other great features of the pack include an integrated hydration sleeve, built in tool loops and removable sleeping bag straps. Those small, but much appreciated, touches help to round out a great package that remains lightweight and rugged, yet high quality in every way.

I never thought I'd be retiring my old Atmos 50 pack, but the new Osprey Atmos is such an improvement in nearly every way that I'm looking forward to using it on future adventures. As I said earlier, it is difficult to improve on perfection, and yet somehow Osprey managed to do just that.
MSRP: \$199 (and worth every penny!)

