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Backpacking with Ease

Featuring: Aura 65

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I tested out [Osprey's Aura 65 Backpack](#) on a 5-day hike in Southern Oregon. This was my first time trying out Osprey gear. I have friends who swear by Osprey's backpacks. They are loyal to the brand, continuing to buy pack after pack over the years. When I asked one friend why she is so loyal, she responded, "Osprey bags have the best fit to my body that no other backpack has been able to match." Those were some mighty strong words to put out there and so I decided to see for myself.

Now for a bit of background on the backpack. The Aura comes in two sizes, 50 cubic liters and 65 cubic liters. It was recently updated, improving its' ventilation and suspension capabilities. It features something they call "Fit-On-The-Fly" hipbelt, which allows you to fully adjust the hipbelt to your body. Similarly, it has an interchangeable harness and adjustable torso length. With three different sizes to choose from (S, M, L), you're bound to find a pack that will be a suitable fit for your body. All three sizes of the pack weigh under 4 pounds, and carries between 3700-4200 cubic inches, making it an excellent backpack for multi-day hiking trips. On such a heavy pack the support given from the hipbelt is paramount, and I felt that it was adequately padded and comfortable. I liked having small pockets on the belt itself; it provided easy access to gum and Emergen-C that I stashed there. Something I noticed was how strategically placed the straps were. It was easy to tighten or loosen the bag if I had it on my back, and the straps were just where I needed them. It felt like they (the all-knowing pack designers) had thought of all the areas that I would want to tighten or loosen, and then put a strap there for me.

All in all an excellent choice for a multi-day backpacking pack.

