



TriEdge.net

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Featuring: Sirrus 36 and Stratos 36

URL: <http://tinyurl.com/8q5jnqq>



While the Sirrus 36 has enough space for a light overnighter, it was the perfect selection for an all-day hike like Mt. Timp. Starting the hike in the dark meant that all those layers would have to be stowed away later in the day. Even with hydration, food and necessary extras already packed, there was plenty of room for my down jacket, gloves, beanie etc. when the sun found it's way to my side of the mountain. The top pocket was great for easy access to stow my headlamp, camera and extra water bottles/snacks were easily accessed from the side mesh pockets while hiking. An extra bonus for this hike was the stow-on-the-go trekking pole attachments. The ability to strap them easily to my side, without having to take off the pack and without getting in the way while hiking, made it one of my favorite features. I originally thought my 3L bladder, plus a few Nalgene bottles were a bit over-kill for an all-day hike since there are plenty of rivers and streams where I could utilize my SteriPEN. However, three hours into the hike, I was immensely grateful when I noticed the streams I'd expected weren't flowing this year. There was no way I could have packed all that water with a smaller or low-quality pack without back pain the next day. Osprey has proven for years that they take comfort seriously and is a fully-vested industry standard. The pack was a great fit and sat comfortably on my hips allowing my shoulders relief from carrying the weight; which is how a well-designed pack is supposed to fit. The cushioned, women-fit shoulder straps are tapered in the chest area and were especially comfortable without arm chaffing from the seams while in motion.

A number of people commented about my pack and how much they love the quality and longevity of the brand. In fact, I chatted with a guy who was wearing the men's version called the Stratos. He was a big fan of the brand as well and owned a few Osprey backpacks of various sizes. He was most impressed with the versatility of the 36 size pack, and I have to agree. While I began the day with a feeling that it was a bit more pack than I needed for this hike, six hours in, it was clear to me that I'd made the perfect choice.

The Final Say. A true test to me of good equipment isn't necessarily how comfortable I am during the activity, but often how I feel after the damage has set in the day after. With the Osprey Sirrus pack designed specifically for a woman's body, my shoulders, back and hips felt great the next day, with no soreness or hot spots from chaffing. Sadly, I cannot say the same for my glutes. I loved that the size and compression straps made it possible to use for a day hike as well as a light overnighter. This is a good quality, versatile pack that I look forward to using on many more hikes.

