



Outside – Buyer's Guide

Summer 2010
 2010 Outside Gear of the Year
 Travel: Haul Tactics
 Featuring: The Sojourn 25
 Readership: 1,300,000



Haul Tactics

Explosive underwear, full-body scans, luggage theft? Welcome to the friendly world. To subdue some of travel's torments, shop smart for luggage: no one wants a flimsy travel companion. With airlines' checked-luggage charges, carry-ons have regained appeal. The newest batch strives for lightness—generally good but not if it allows ounces compromise durability. As with all luggage, look for bumper guards, plastic kick plates, big zippers, high-strength fabrics, and reinforcements on the wear spots. Convertible rucksack backpacks are sweet, especially with fully adjustable, padded suspensions. But if you're not taking a Guatemalan chicken coop or hoofing it off-road, stick with a standard roller. When gear-intensive endeavors are on the menu, you need a giant duffel with external compression straps, a molded hard bottom, and post-sweat design. And whenever you're looking at a new bag, investigate all mechanical parts. Look like something is flimsier than the rest? Heed! BY TED ALAN STEEDMAN

AND THE WINNER IS ...
Osprey Sojourn 25
 The Sojourn masterfully combines DNA from Osprey's technical packs with perhaps the most intelligent convertible-luggage design available. The foundation is the company's High Road Chassis, an amalgam of high-grade aluminum frame, composite base, fiberglass matrix inlay, ergonomic two-position handle, and large, high-traction wheels. During tramps in Alaska, Colorado, and Mexico, testers gushed about how nimble and balanced the Sojourn felt, testament to



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Practicality: 5
Durability: 5

