



Outside Bozeman

Fall 2012

Just for Chicks: Fall Gear Reviews

Featuring: Aura 65

Circulation: 20,000

Readership: 50,000

just for chicks

Fall Gear Reviews

1 La Stria—AKU

Throughout the week, I've rolled my ankles more times than I can count. Because they're about as stable as a slumey toddler, I need extra support when it comes to traversing rocky trails. The AKU La Stria boots give me the stability I need and the comfort I want. Whether backpacking, hiking, or kicking cowhats, these sturdy leather devils are a girl's best friend for the backcountry. Plus, no rain, dust, and waterproof they are, these Gore-Tex kicks are pretty darn breathable. And I know this may sound silly (something I usually frown upon in the OSJ office), but I very much appreciate the fact that they're cute—unlike every other chunky pair of hiking boots I've owned. They are a little pricey, but if you've got the cash, I say make it rain. \$200, akuboot.com —KATE BEAUDOIN

2 Aura 65—OSPREY

The Osprey Aura has more bells and whistles than a one-man band at the Whoville Christmas parade. It's built for extended trips and doesn't miss a beat—if you can think of it, this pack's got it. The ventilated mesh backpanel is crazy comfortable and the waffle-foam hipbelts and harness make it easy to carry and guarantee a snug fit. It's got a hydration sleeve (but, unlike I assumed, does *not* include a hydration reservoir), sleeping pad straps, a sleeping bag compartment, tool attachments for trekking poles (or samurai swords for those so inclined), and tons of zippered pockets and hidden compartments. It's built for a woman's body, and you can choose a small, medium, or large size, so the pack hugs you like it loves you—and I bet you'll love it right back. Available at Northern Lights, Grizzly Outfitters, and REI. \$240; ospreypacks.com. —KATE BEAUDOIN

3 Interlock Trace—SMITH OPTICS

There are a few things that are *slightly* important when I'm shopping for a pair of new sunglasses: they must be big enough to provide protection from the sun and wind, sit snugly against my face without being claustrophobic, provide good ventilation, and be able to sit on top of my head when I walk inside. The Smith Interlock Trace fits the bill perfectly—I don't think I could have designed a pair of sunglasses better suited for my multi-sport adventures. Even when I'm sweating up on my bike, they stay in place thanks to the hydrophilic pads, venting well enough that they don't fog up. I love the polarized brown lenses that come with the wind-torn frame—they're super cool, ultralight, and make the colors of my surroundings really pop. Plus, I can change out lenses as needed with a quick turn of the torqie arms. Available at Montana Troutfitters, The Hours' Edge, Grizzly Outfitters, Round House, Chateau, and Northern Lights. \$140; smithoptics.com. —JACOB WARD

4 Bonzer—AUSSIE DOGS

In the middle of autumn, I rarely wish for the bone-chilling snows of winter to return—but after putting on my new Aussie Dog Bonzer boots, there was a small part of me that hoped just a few flakes would fall. Though tall, the boots feel like slippers, and unlike many other sheepskin boots, these feature a Thermo Plastic Rubber sole so puddles and slush don't soak my feet. With their tough exterior, I'm more than ready to battle the harsh weather that's sure to pile up around my house any day now. Both comfortable and stylish, the Bonzer kept my dogs from barking while keeping them dry. \$170; aussiedogs.com. —KATE BEAUDOIN



BY | OUTSIDE BOZEMAN | FALL 2012

2012
PHOTO
CONTEST
WINNERS

FALL FISHING
The Mighty Whitey,
Area Hot Spots

CANINES
Dog Snobs, Pet Loss,
Yellowstone Wolves

HUNTING SEASON
Gallatin River Bucks, Deer ID,
Game, Block Management

2



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