



Osprey Kode Pack for Backcountry Snowplay

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Backcountry Snowplay

Featuring: Kode Series

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Let's say that your winter travel endeavors—whether far away or close to home—involve some serious snow fun. And perhaps that enjoyment is found not on ski resorts' manicured trails, but out in the backcountry. You'll need a pack that totes your tools for fun, as well as those that can keep you out of trouble. **Osprey's Kode series packs** are worth a serious look.

The pack incorporates an EVA foam torso harness and hip belt for comfort while you're carrying your gear. The full-featured pack employs burly, rubberized straps and reinforced carry wings to secure your snowboard or skis. For boards and snowshoes, the vertical carry mode is the most comfortable and secure. For skis, there's a choice between a diagonal and A-frame carry mode. Got an ice tool? There's also room for that, as well as a top panel, stretch mesh stowable helmet carry.

The extra-large front panel has easy access to an avalanche safety kit pocket with shovel handle and probe sleeves, and the dual zippered back panel allows access to roomy dry storage space and an internal zippered hydration compartment. So your water doesn't freeze, there's an insulated hydration tube sleeve.

The system of pockets and compartments help keep gear nicely stashed away, and the zippers are glove- and mitt-friendly. Hip belt pockets are handy for quick-access items. A top pocket is safe and scratch-free for storing goggles, and the wet-stuff compartment allows your delicate electronics (like cell phones and cameras) to avoid touching your soggy gloves.

I've used the Kode Pack out in the backcountry already this season, and while I haven't had it on any hardcore adventures yet, my day trips have been more than enjoyable with all my necessities secured in and on the pack.

The [Osprey Kode Packs](#) come in 22, 32 and 42 liter sizes. I tested the middle one (the 32-liter pack), which lists for \$149 at [Moosejaw](#) or [REI](#). It's also available on [Zappos](#) or [backcountry.com](#) for \$148.95.

