



Adventure Cyclist

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OSPREY REV 18 (\$120, ospreypacks.com/en/product/endurance__trail_fitness/rev_18, 866-264-7830)

I don't mind carrying stuff with me when I ride. Actually, I prefer to. I'd rather carry a few additional pounds than be caught out wishing I had brought an extra tube or a rain jacket. And I like to carry a lot of water in case I go further than planned, so I employ a hydration pack with enough cargo space to carry water plus what I may need to avoid hitchhiking or — gasp — calling for a ride. This summer, I've been using the Osprey Rev 18, a pack that suits my needs to the T.

The Rev 18 has a bunch of features I find useful. First, it includes a 2.5-liter reservoir with a wide opening that easily accommodates large ice cubes or a cleaning brush. The reservoir is tightly held in place by a chevron-shaped baffle inside the reservoir pocket and features a QuickConnect mechanism that allows for one-handed detachment from the hose. This is very handy for the filling and cleaning of the reservoir — no wrestling with a hose flopping all around or snagging on everything imaginable — and the finger loop makes carrying the reservoir about a snap. The bite valve is well designed and offers plenty of flow — and it's magnetic. This integrates with another nice feature, the Biostretch Body Wrap Harness. The top strap of the harness is also magnetic and receives the bite valve with a click so you know right where it is, and it keeps the valve from annoyingly slapping against your leg.

The Biostretch Bodybelt wraps



snuggly around your waist and has two quick-zip pockets — one on each side — for the storage of you wallet, keys, etc. The DigiFlip Media Pocket holds a mobile device and is located on the left shoulder strap. The right shoulder strap features two offset but stacked pockets which are handy for an energy bar, a packet of peanuts, or a pair of sunglasses. There's also a zippered stash pocket at the top as well as well as another full-size cargo pocket. In addition you can attach various items to the outside of the pack with the front-panel bungee. You name it, the Rev 18 has got it, and it's ready for any ride you are. —MD

