



## Velo – Buyer's Guide

January 2015

Tested: Hydration Packs

Featuring: Raptor 10

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# TESTED

## Hydration packs

The gear, water, and food requirements of a proper trail ride don't fit in your pockets or a single frame-mounted bottle. That's where these come in.

**1** Style points

### MOUNTAIN

#### WHAT WE LOOK FOR

- Highly breathable back panel that separates sweaty body from pack
- Comfortable, adjustable straps
- Clever hydration-hose routing and mounting
- Durable materials; preferably waterproof
- Lots of pockets

**1 OSPREY RAPTOR 10**  
\$119

The Raptor 10 is as close to perfect as any trail pack we've used. It sports a 2.5-liter bladder that's easy to clean and seal, and hosts myriad pockets for all the trail-riding essentials. Pump pocket, key pocket, phone pocket, food pocket, you name it, it has a pocket for it. But the crucial feature is a tool roll that sits on the bottom of the pack, separating the greasy things from the clean things. The roll is easily removable.

**2 ACRE HAUSER 10L**  
\$195

Muted colors and a rugged, urban look set the Hauser apart from its hi-vis, pocket-laden peers. Taller and leaner than most packs of the same size, it holds its load close to the back, bundled inside a weatherproof rip-stop exterior with a roll-top closure. External tie-downs hold a helmet or pads and a wide waist strap with multiple anchor points keeps the pack comfortably in place. The included tool roll slides perfectly into the outer pocket.

**3 CAMELBAK M.U.L.E. NV**  
\$135

Four 3D back panels prop the M.U.L.E. NV up and away from your back, making it the least sweaty pack we've ever used. The design is slim, expanding out and away from the body as compartments are filled. Helmet strap hooks, cleverly placed pockets, a magnetic hose guide, integrated rain cover, and that huge three-liter reservoir complete the package.

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