



## GreatOutdoors.com Favorite Gear of the Year for 2010

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One of the best aspects of working in the outdoor industry is living the life: climbing, hiking, and adventure travel through some of the most fascinating landscapes on earth. Staff members here at GreatOutdoors.com (and our parent company, Atrek.com) spend as much time as possible pursuing outdoor adventure, so they take their outdoor equipment seriously. And this year, GreatOutdoors.com teamed up with Southern Yosemite Mountain Guides, one of America's premier wilderness guide services, to test gear on an epic 60-mile hike through the Sierra. As we roll into the busy fourth quarter, a great time to pick up deals on the best in outdoor gear, here are some of our favorite pieces of equipment for 2010, as tested by the guides at Southern Yosemite Mountain Guides and our own staff.



We really pushed the envelope on this three-pound backpack, carrying 50 plus pounds to start the trip. We were most impressed by the ventilation system, which on hot, sunny Sierra afternoons kept us cool, and for the genuine comfort even when overloaded. This is a well thought out pack. Big exterior pockets offer packing options, and secure gear loops facilitated carrying group gear. The waist belt slipped a bit under max loads, but soon sorted itself out as our weight decreased.