



A SNEAK PEEK AT NEXT YEAR'S BEST NEW GEAR

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Featuring: Atmos AG, Aura AG and Ace Series

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Osprey Aura 65 AG

Thinking about buying a new backpack, tent, boots, or other outdoor gear or apparel? I recently spent a couple of days wandering the floor of The Salt Palace in Salt Lake City—a convention center you could fit a few Wal-Marts inside—at the Outdoor Retailer Show, ogling the best of the new products for hiking and backpacking that will hit stores in 2015.

I'll test and review many of these, but here's an early peek at the most interesting items I saw (in other words, the stuff I'm most coveting).

Packs

I'm a fan of the **Osprey Atmos packs**, and for 2015 the pack maker updates the series with a unique, lightweight mesh suspension that wraps around the hips and torso like a sock on your foot. True to the Atmos and Aura pedigree, the peripheral-wire frame is built for loads of 50 pounds or more. It will come in the **men's Atmos AG 65** (\$260, 4 lbs. 6 oz. for medium), and **Atmos AG 50** (\$230, 4 lbs. in medium), and **women's Aura AG 65** (\$260, 4 lbs. 2 oz. in medium), and **Aura AG 50** (\$230, 3 lbs. 12 oz. in medium). All come in three sizes for a customized fit.



Osprey Ace 38

As a father of two young backpackers, I understand the challenge of finding kids' packs that fit well and are comfortable—especially on smaller, skinny kids age nine to 11. So I'm eager to have my kids test drive the new **Osprey Ace 38** (\$140, 2 lbs. 6 oz., for ages 10 to 14), **Ace 50** (\$160, 2 lbs. 15 oz., for ages 11 to 16), and **Ace 75** (\$180, 3 lbs. 9 oz., for ages 12 to 17). Built with the quality of adult packs, the top-loading Ace tackles the challenge of fitting a wide range of kids' body sizes—these are adjustable to fit a five-inch range of torso length—and offering a broad range of pack capacities.



Osprey Aura 65 AG harness

