

National Park Secrets

Quick Escapes & Hidden Adventures

Outside

The **50** Best Jobs

They're Still Out There.
Here's How **YOU**
Can Get One.

Dirty Jobs
**MIKE
ROWE**
Career
Advice
from
the King
of Work

+15

Smart, Fun
Companies
Hiring
Right **Now**

**STRESS IS
GOOD FOR YOU**
The New Science
of Peak Fitness

GEAR TEST
Fast Bikes and
Cool Shades

EXCLUSIVE:
The Bomber Who
Shut Down Aspen

ESSENTIALS



> outfitted for **Ultralight Backpacking**

Carry a featherweight load without leaving comfort behind BY JASON STEVENSON

1. POLES The carbon-fiber shafts of Komperdell's C3 Carbon Duolock keep the weight of each pole to a mere seven ounces, yet on the trail they feel as sturdy as anything else. \$160; komperdell.com **2. PACK** At 2.5 pounds, Osprey's Exos 58 is half the weight of most weekend packs, but its solid suspension easily handled more than 30 pounds of gear. \$220; ospreypacks.com **3. SHELL** The North Face's 5.4-ounce, waterproof-breathable Triumph Anorak is just enough jacket to get you through a summer storm. \$180; thenorthface.com **4. TENT** The numbers shouldn't add up, but somehow Big Agnes's Copper Spur UL 2 boasts 29 square feet of floor space and a liberal 42 inches of headroom but weighs just 3.4 pounds. \$400; bigagnes.com **5. BOOTS** With a Gore-Tex membrane and a high cut, Inov-8's flexible Roclite 390 GTX is a real boot. But at 14 ounces, it weighs about as much as your trail runners. \$160; inov-8.com **6. BAG** Because it's stuffed with ultra-compressible (and lofty) 850-fill down, Marmot's 30-degree Hydrogen packs smaller than a loaf of bread and weighs less than 1.5 pounds. \$320; marmot.com **7. PAD** There are lighter pads on the market, but Therm-a-Rest's new full-length Prolite Plus is warm enough to use on snow and has the best comfort-to-weight ratio we've seen (1.5 inches thick, 1.5 pounds). \$100; thermarest.com **8. STOVE** Not only is Primus's 15-ounce EtaExpress more efficient than lighter stoves (so you can carry less fuel); its windscreen allowed the flame to roar while other test burners were sputtering in the breeze. \$95; primuscamping.com **9. COOKSET** GSI's 21-ounce Pinnacle Dualist packs all the essentials—bowls, mugs, and utensils—into one 1.8-liter pot. \$60; gsioutdoors.com