



# ADVENTURES *in good company*

## HIKING COLORADO PACKING LIST

### FOOTWEAR

- 1 pair of lightweight hiking boots
- 1 pair of comfortable shoes or sandals for walking around lodging and downtown Estes Park
- 2-3 pairs of hiking socks (wool or synthetic equivalent: Smartwool, Thorlo, Darn Tough)

### CLOTHING

- 1 - 2 pair of comfortable synthetic long pants (or 3/4) for hiking - zip-offs work well
- 1 - 2 pair of shorts (or 3/4) – lightweight and quick drying
- 1 - 2 lightweight, light-colored, long-sleeved shirt with UPF to protect you from the sun and from bugs (button up front work well for thermoregulating while hiking)
- 2 - 3 synthetic or lightweight merino wool T-shirts or short-sleeved shirts
- 1 lightweight fleece/down jacket/vest
- 1 pair lightweight long underwear top and bottoms: silk, wool or synthetic equivalent
- 1 medium-weight top layer: wool shirt/pull-over or synthetic equivalent
- 1 warm fleece/down jacket/vest
- 1 pair rain jacket and rain pants: waterproof/breathable fabric like Gore-tex.
- Enough underwear and pajamas to be comfortable for 8 days
- 1 warm wool or fleece hat
- 1 pair wool, capilene, or fleece gloves
- 1 wide-brimmed hat for protection from the sun with a chin strap (it can get very windy in Rocky Mountain National Park!)
- 1 Swimsuit (the mountain house has a hot tub)
- 1 – 2 changes of casual clothes to wear at end of day or out for dinner

### ESSENTIALS

- 1 daypack (see notes on packing list for recommended capacity)
- Trekking poles (required)
- Sunglasses (100% UV protection) with case and retention strap
- Tupperware (or equivalent) sandwich box for carrying your lunch
- Small headlamp or flashlight
- Capacity to carry 3 quarts of water: 1 one-quart water bottle and a 2 liter hydration system that fits in your pack is ideal
- Your favorite snack (snacks will be provided but it's nice to have what you're familiar with and like)
- Ear plugs (for a good night's sleep!)

### TOILETRIES (small everything)

- Toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, hand sanitizer, shampoo, contact lens paraphernalia, sanitary supplies



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- Sunscreen and lip protection with sunblock of at least SPF 15
- Personal first aid/patch kit (see notes below)

**Please note:** Individuals who have had or have the potential for a severe allergic reaction to insect stings, specific foods or medications must bring an epi-pen. Please consult your physician and tell your guide.

### OPTIONAL

- Bandana or buff (very multi-useful)
- Pleasure reading book, notebook/journal, writing utensils
- Wrist watch/travel alarm clock

### Notes on Packing

Adventures in Good Company's packing list includes items to help you be prepared for the various activities and conditions. It is not personalized, so please add the items that you require to travel safely and comfortably but remember – less is better! You may not use everything you bring; however, you need to come prepared for all possible weather. At the same time, you must be able to carry your own luggage, up and downstairs. Bringing a duffel bag or soft-sided suitcase with wheels, rather than a hard-sided suitcase, is easier for packing into the vans that will be transporting our luggage. **As space for luggage on our trips is limited, please do not overpack!**

**Footwear:** Well-fitting, sturdy boots or trail shoes are very important to your safety and enjoyment. If you plan to buy new boots, break them in by wearing them around town and taking some short hikes *before* your trip. For general hiking, lightweight or midweight cordura or leather boots with a Vibram sole work well. If you have weak ankles or are recovering from an ankle injury, get boots that come above the ankle– you'll find that this will give you more support in uneven or slippery terrain. Remember to waterproof your boots before the trip. Even boots billed as 'waterproof' need to be treated with a waterproofing product.

**Daypacks:** Your daypack should be large enough to hold the following items: 1 liter of water, rain gear, lunch/snacks (for the day), sunscreen, warm layer (fleece pullover or vest), personal first aid kit, lightweight gloves, warm hat and personal items such as camera, etc. We recommend a daypack with a capacity of between 24 - 30 Liters (1450 - 1850 cubic inches) with a hip belt, padded shoulder straps, and 'lifters'. Line your daypack with a durable plastic bag to keep your belongings dry and/or have an elasticized pack cover that fits snugly over it. Before you leave home check to be sure that it is comfortable to wear all day and has sufficient space for all of the items listed above. **Note: Fanny-packs and hydration packs are not large enough to hold all of the items you will need for the day.**

**Clothing:** All clothing for active wear should be made from synthetic/synthetic blends, down/down blends or wool/wool blends. NO COTTON for your activewear. The clothing listed on the packing list has been chosen for your specific trip conditions and for its versatility for layering. Layering is the most practical and efficient method of insulating the body. Several layers of varied weight materials provide better insulation than one thick Layer of clothing. Also, adding or subtracting layers allows you to adjust to the temperature at your particular level of activity.



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**Hydration:** Being able to easily access your water without assistance, so that you can drink frequently, is important to your safety and enjoyment. One method is to have a water bottle attached to your waist strap. Another option is to use a **HYDRATION SYSTEM** such as CamelBak, Platypus, and MSR bladder bags, which are collapsible water bags with a hose attachment that you drink from. The bags fit inside or outside your pack with the hose positioned over your shoulder so that you can access your water as you hike. Bladder bags can hold 1 - 3 liters of water.

**Rain Gear:** You will need a jacket made of waterproof/breathable fabric like Gore-tex, HellyTech, Membrane, H2No, or Ultrex. **Be sure it keeps water out.** Before making this important purchase, be sure that it fits you properly. It should be large enough to fit over all your layers. In particular, the hood needs to be effective. It should shield your face from the rain and turn with your head. Movement of your arms must not interfere with the hood. Put on your daypack; can you still raise your arms? Your wind/rain pants should be comfortable, allow enough room for your layers, and permit free movement of your legs (for example, can you crouch comfortably?). Partial or full-length leg zippers are useful for easily putting your pants on over your boots. An inexpensive plastic poncho will both leak and tear easily and is not recommended.

**Personal First Aid Kit:** Bring a small first aid kit with familiar medicine and first aid supplies you might need. Recommendations include the following: Band-Aids, small sewing kit/safety pins, blister or foot remedies like moleskin, Compeed, blister bandages, or similar, a small roll of duct tape (always useful!), remedies for respiratory ailments, stomach ailments, sore muscles or joints., moleskin, Compeed (or blister bandages), ibuprofen, any personal medications, small roll of duct tape, etc. The guides will have a first aid kit but having what you know works well for you is a good idea

**Trekking Poles:** Trekking poles are required for this trip. Trekking poles contribute to your safety by improving your balance and stability, and to your health by saving stress on your hips and knees. If you are not familiar with trekking poles, [click here to read this blog post](#) that addresses the most commonly asked questions.