



After many years of guiding, I've discovered a ton of great gear that I can recommend! The gear listed below is what I am currently using. It is a balance between lightweight, durable, comfortable and affordable. Keep in mind that this list is for guiding in the Rocky Mountains where temperatures range from 0-80 degrees.

I also recommend the following:

1. Acquire a "sales tax exemption certificate" if you are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Use this certificate every single time that you shop for gear. In some states, you'll save nearly 10% on every purchase.
2. Apply for an Amazon Rewards Visa Credit Card and use the 4% reward to purchase more gear through Amazon.
3. Try to obtain pro-deals through Columbia and Osprey. This will allow the guide to purchase personal gear at a reduced price.
4. Guides should put together a more robust kit. Due to the number of hours on the trail, it is wise to invest in a professional setup. In the long run it will save your back, knees and save you money due to long-term durability. For example, my boots are three times the cost of the boots I buy for participants, but they last me for 400 miles of hiking.
5. It never hurts to search eBay for used gear that's in decent condition.
6. I've gotten 1-3 more seasons out of gear that I repaired with duct tape, sleeping pad repair kits and a sewing needle with 15 pound braided fishing line (e.g. If you get a tear in your tent rainfly, duct tape both sides of the tear).

Item	Make & Model	Comments
Guide Backpack	OSPREY Aether AG 85 with Day Pack	Secure a Pro-deal w/ Osprey
Student Backpack	Deuter Aircontact 65 L + 10	Very Adjustable & Lightweight
Tent	REI Passage 1	Find Used on Ebay
Tent Footprint	REI Passage 1	Find Used on Ebay
Sleeping Bag	REI Co-op Lumen or Similar	Rated 25 Degree or Colder

Sleeping Pad	REI Co-op Flash	R-value of 3 or Higher
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Boots Salomon High-top or Mid; Keen for Wide Feet

Water Bottle	32 oz Nalgene	Snap Promotions for Custom
Head Lamp	PETZL TacTikka	Amazon
Spare Batteries	AAA for headlamp/ AA for Navigation	Amazon
Ice Axe	Black Diamond Raven Pro	Only Needed for Advenced Adventures
Crampons	Kahtoola K-10	Only Needed for Advenced Adventures
Rope	Rando 8MM Dry Cover Rope - Twin 30M	Only Needed for Advenced Adventures
Bear Bag	Loksak by OPSAK	Still Hang if in Grizzly Territory
100' of 550 Cord	Werewolves	2 Per Group of 10
Iodine Tablets	Potable Aqua	Bring a Filter for Backup
First Aid Kit	See the NOLS FAK List	https://blog.nols.edu/2016/06/03/27-considerations-for-a-first-aid-kit
Water Filter	Platypus Gravity Works 4L	Replace Filter Every 3 Trips
Stove	Jetboil Flash	Shop Around
Stove Fuel	100 Gram Canister	Averages 23 Boils Per Canister At 11,000 ft

Canteen Cup	Finess City 600ml Titanium Cup W/out Lid	Amazon
Spork	Finess City Titanium Spork	Amazon
Fishing Pole	Bass Pro Telescopic Rod	Shop Around for a Small Lightweight Reel
Bug Hoody	Shine US	Amazon
Map	7.5 Minute Scale	Shop At Local Outdoor Store
Sat Phone Messenger	Garmen Delorme Intouch	For Guide
Backup GPS	Garmen GPSMAP 64sx	For Guide
Emergency Beacon	ACR ResQlink	For Guide
Tarp	3MM Painters Tarp	9x12
Pack Cover	Osprey Upltralight	Amazon
Whistle	Rugged Valley Emergency Whistle	Amazon
Soap	Scent-free all purpose biodegradable	Amazon

Compass SUUNTO M-3DL For Guide

Shovel	Plastic Lightweight Trowel	Amazon
Mini Lighter	1 Per Person	Store
Big Dry Sack	Sea to Summit Lightweight Dry Sack	20L For Sleeping Bag
Small Dry Sack	Sea to Summit Lightweight Dry Sack	8L For Spare Clothes
Wool Socks	Darn Tough Merino Wool	Guaranteed for Life; Amazon

Wool Base Layer	Meriwool Medium Thick	Amazon
Convertible Wicking Pants	Columbia Silver Ridge	Amazon
Wicking Shirt	Wrangler ATG Long Sleeve Wicking Shirt	Amazon
Fleece	Columbia Steens Mountain Full Zip	Amazon
Mid Layer Jacket	Tommy Hilfiger Ultra Loft Lightweight Packable Puffer Jacket	Amazon
Rain Pants	Columbia Watertight II	Amazon
Rain Jacket	Columbia Rebel Roamer	Amazon
Beanie	Turtle Fur	Amazon
Gloves	Seirus Innovation	Amazon
Bandana	Generic	Cotton; Amazon
Belt	Comes with Columbia Pants	
Sunglasses	Polorized UV Protect	