What To Bring Backpacking



"Keep close to Nature's heart... and break clear away, once in a while, and climb a mountain or spend a week in the woods. Wash your spirit clean."

What to Bring

John Muir

Must have

- Waterproof raincoat with a hood (no ponchos, please) Waterproof/ breathable is best. Raingear needs to have taped seams (unless you have the brand FrogToggs)
- Waterproof rain pants
- Sturdy shoes for hiking (boots that are well broken in, or sturdy trail runners)
- 3 or 4 pairs wool or polypropylene socks (no cotton)
- · Fleece or puffy jacket for warmth layer
- 1 lighter layer for warmth (long sleeve base layer, light fleece or similar)
- · Shorts or pants for hiking in
- 1 or 2 t-shirts
- Underwear
- Warm bottom layer (leggings or long johns)
- · Headlamp or small/lightweight flashlight
- Sunglasses
- · Beanie / lightweight cap for warmth
- Water bottle (Nalgene is suggested)
- Toiletries to include toothbrush and small toothpaste, sunscreen
- · 2 masks
- Faith, grit and readiness to receive what God and the Wilderness has to offer
- · Swim suit for hot springs in Pagosa after the backpack trip

May bring if you wish

- Vest for warmth (puffy or fleece)
- · Shorts for hiking
- Bandanna
- Sandals with a heel strap for creek crossings and evenings (no flip-flops or slide)
- Small lightweight backpack towel
- · Journal and pen
- Small Bible
- Light mittens or gloves / mitten or glove liners work well
- · Bath towel for shower at camp
- · Clean clothes for the trip home
- Camera
- Diversions for down time: playing cards or small paperback for reading (no hardback books please)