

Explore

**Big Sky** SPECIAL SECTION



The graphic features the word "Gift" in a large, red, cursive font with a yellow star above the "i". Below it are two gift boxes: one with vertical red and white stripes, and another with a teal background and a 3x3 grid of red dots. To the right of these is a large red ampersand. Below the ampersand are three more gift boxes: one with vertical teal and white stripes, one with vertical teal stripes and a red bow on top, and one with a red cross pattern on a dark red background. Below these is the word "Gear" in a large, red, cursive font, followed by "Guide" in the same font. Below "Guide" are three more gift boxes: one with a red bow on a dark red background, one with horizontal teal and white stripes, and one with vertical teal and white stripes. At the bottom of the graphic is the text "2017 - 2018" in a red, serif font, with a red wavy line underneath.

# Gift & Gear Guide

2017 - 2018

From the sharpest threads on the market to essential outdoor gear and local picks, this holiday gift and gear guide will keep those stockings stuffed.



## Mystery Ranch Saddle Peak



A bombproof pack from a homegrown Bozeman company, the Saddle Peak has a low-profile design for lift-powered ski days as well as 21 loadable liters for backcountry endeavors. Hip-strap pockets and a body panel zipper allow easy access, even with your skis A-framed up or slung diagonally across the pack. A telescoping yoke custom fits your torso while glove-friendly zipper pulls and sleek avy gear compartments make it a trusted companion for wintry adventure.

\$229 [mysteryranch.com](http://mysteryranch.com)



## Flylow Magarac Glove

Some say “ski bum” while others prefer the term “successful skier.” Whether you’re a lift operator running a snowmobile or a ski patroller throwing explosives, this glove is perfect for the working professional who spends most of their time in the snow. These supple, waterproof-coated gloves slip on and off like a dream and their leather construction keeps your hands warm while working and playing.

\$50 [flowlowgear.com](http://flowlowgear.com)



## Burton Men's AK 3L Freebird Bib Pants

These bibs are designed to get you into, and out of, remote locations in deep conditions. Perfect for backcountry adventures or powder days at the resort, the three-layer Gore-Tex is lightweight, flexible and breathable. Smart features include waterproof zippers, taped seams and chest pockets. With an easily adjustable suspender system, innovative ventilation, and a lifetime warranty, Burton has crafted a superior ski pant that's attention-to-detail and outerlayer technology will make it a favorite of dedicated skiers and snowboarders for years to come.

\$580 [burton.com](http://burton.com)



## MSR TrailShot Microfilter

This small, packable filter comes ready to use and weighs only 5 ounces. With one hand, you can filter 1 liter in 60 seconds. The TrailShot relies on a replaceable hollow fiber filter that removes bacteria, protozoa and particulates. Its spout is slightly curved, helping to direct water into a water bottle. You can also drink directly from the TrailShot, and the spout is small enough to filter water into hydration packs directly through the hose.

\$50 [msrgear.com](http://msrgear.com)



## Snow Peak Mini Solo 2.0

It's quite possible you've sipped out of a disposable cup that weighs more than this whole set-up. The titanium and stainless steel measuring-cup-and-pot combo holds a 110-gram fuel canister and features stable foldout handles that will keep you from spilling your recently heated meal or drink. Marked volume measurements on the inside of the cup will help you prep your grub in precise quantities. In short: an awesome pick for meal preparation when lightweight gear is paramount.

\$80 [snowpeak.com](http://snowpeak.com)



## MSR WindBurner Stove System

Designed to withstand the harshest of weather, the WindBurner Stove System by Mountain Safety Research performs in wind, rain and snow. Its highly efficient radiant burner and enclosed design allows the stove to boil water within minutes, ideal for minimalist camping or backcountry adventures. The system weighs just over 16 ounces and includes a burner, propane canister stand, pot, small bowl and BPA-free straining lid. A stove grip will keep you from burning your hands during and after operation, and an insulated pot cozy keeps the contents warm. Propane canisters can be purchased in 3.9- or 8-ounce sizes. The entire stove system, including a 3.9-ounce canister, nests inside the pot for easy packing and assembly.

From \$140 [msrgear.com](http://msrgear.com)





# Petzl ACTIK CORE

The old days of wearing a bulky headlamp to achieve a powerful light source are gone. With 350 lumens—enough to light 300 feet—the Petzl ACTIK CORE is amazingly bright for its size and weighs less than 3 ounces. Its reflective headband is great for runners logging miles before the sun comes up or after it's gone down. Plus, there are two power options: you can recharge via USB port or use AAA alkaline batteries for extended trips in the field.

\$60 [petzl.com](http://petzl.com)



# Sweet Protection Trooper MIPS

It's this simple: Do you like your head?

Then Sweet Protection's Trooper MIPS helmet is for you. Combining sharp design, great fit, and a plethora of science-backed product development (like MIPS to reduce rotational forces), Sweet Protection has a grade-A ski and snowboard helmet that not only looks and feels good, but gives you a top-of-the-line insurance policy for your noggin.

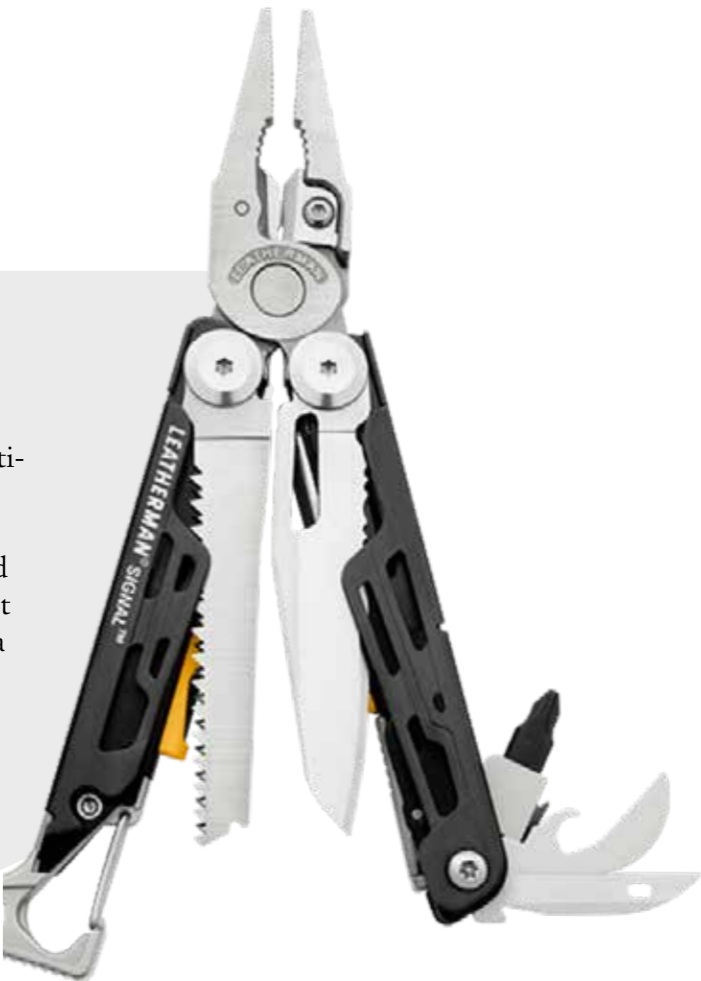
\$319 [sweetprotection.com](http://sweetprotection.com)



# Letherman Signal Multi-Tool

Stout and elegant, the Signal bears the Leatherman torch—only this multi-tool can actually light a torch. Along with the usual assortment of pliers, knife, mini-saw and screwdriver bits, the Signal features unique survival features, such as a whistle and a ferrocerium rod for sparking fires, to lend security to backcountry travelers. Need a hammer? Bottle-opener? It's got you covered. One-hand-operable locking blades safeguard fingers while a built-in sharpener promises to keep your blade keen indefinitely.

\$100 [leatherman.com](http://leatherman.com)





## Outdoor Research Ascendant Vest

For days where temperatures fluctuate from high to low, this breathable vest is one you will still want to keep on while on a long, tough ski tour. It's water- and wind-resistant, and incredibly lightweight—just 6 ounces. The Polartec Alpha Direct Insulation will keep your core comfy when temperatures plummet, making it a great companion for springtime backcountry excursions.

\$175 [outdoorresearch.com](https://www.outdoorresearch.com)



## Outdoor Research Women's Plaza Down Jackette

This hybrid top with a vintage-cut snap-up vest and stretchy poly-spandex arms is a great piece of apparel for increasingly chilly mornings and evenings. The 700-fill down vest keeps your mid-section toasty, while allowing full arm motion, and when isn't a hoodie a bonus? When it's time to hit the slopes, OR's Plaza Down Jackette will make for a perfect midlayer as its torso-hugging vest and non-restrictive sleeves fit comfortably under a jacket and over a base layer.

\$220 [outdoorresearch.com](https://www.outdoorresearch.com)



## Patagonia Micro Puff Hoody

Patagonia outdid itself once again with the Micro Puff Hoody – a super lightweight, four-season companion debuting the company's new PlumaFill Synthetic insulation. The Micro Puff's heat trapping capability; cozy, lofty construction; and warm-when-wet performance make it a no-frills, all-weather warrior. Bonus: The outer material blocks wind and sheds light precip, and the entire jacket weighs in at just 8 ounces for women and 9.3 ounces for men. And, of course, there's Patagonia's virtually unbeatable warranty policy—if their product doesn't perform to your liking, you can get a repair, replacement or refund with minimal hassle.

\$299 [patagonia.com](https://www.patagonia.com)





## Kulik Clothing Adventure Pants

These leggings are meant for intrepid women looking to live a colorful life, whether that's in yoga, climbing a mountain, or any adventure in between. Kulik, a new company out of Bozeman, offers these high quality pants in seven unique and brilliant designs incorporating playful elements like feathers, flowers, fish and stripes. Made from a comfortable blend of polyester and spandex, the leggings move with you and breathe. Double flatlock stitching gives the seams extra reinforcement without adding bulk, and Kulik says their fabric ink will never fade after washing.

\$75 [kulikclothing.com](http://kulikclothing.com)



## Black Diamond First Light Hoody

From the frosty evening out on the town to the early morning alpine expeditions, the First Light Hoody from Black Diamond has your back. This unique design provides breathability, water resistance and surprisingly hardy PrimaLoft insulation in a lightweight and packable layer. The stretch-woven, nylon outer feels bomb proof when compared with the common puffy jacket prone to ripping. Created as an ideal jacket for start-stop activities in cold conditions, this layer keeps you equipped for whatever the day may bring. So whether you're hitting the slopes, the streets or the office, the First Light Hoody from Black Diamond is adventure ready.

\$249 [blackdiamondequipment.com](http://blackdiamondequipment.com)



## Roscoe Outdoors Washakie Pants

Roscoe Outdoors, an independent outdoor clothing company based in Red Lodge, Montana, promises the Washakie pant will quickly become your all-mountain favorite. Built with highly breathable waffle weave fabric in a Nylon/Lycra blend, these pants are an all-around workhorse. Made with a built-in belt and fast-dry, water-resistant fabric, the Washakie pant is suitable for fishing or cross-country skiing and great for hiking and climbing. Their four-way stretch and articulated knees comfortably accommodate a base layer, and a double front and seat adds to their durability. Women's sizes are offered in straight or curvy profiles, and both men's and women's can be custom hemmed.

\$94 [roscoeoutdoor.com](http://roscoeoutdoor.com)

## Stio Fremont Jacket

The men's Fremont Jacket is sure to be another instant classic designed by Stio, a Jackson, Wyoming-based company that strives for technical performance, quality and versatility in their apparel. Lined with Thermocore Ecodown, a lightweight synthetic insulation, the outer jacket is a softshell material that's stretchy and strong. The Fremont has that mountain-dwelling look to keep you fashionable, no matter if you're doing chores in the backyard or heading to après after a long day on the slopes.

\$219 [stio.com](http://stio.com)





## Toad&Co Lennox Coatigan

Nothing represents Montana dress more than wool. It’s an essential for all we do in our neck of the Rockies. But having an outer wool layer that is complimentary for both errands and a night out is a hard find. Well, put down that pilled sweater that Aunt Doris gave you for the holidays in 2001 and feast your wool-hungry eyes on this beauty from Toad&Co. It’s versatile enough to pair with other Montana staples like cowboy boots and jeans, or those classy skinnies and heels. Sustainably made from non-itchy, 100 percent Merino wool, you can’t go wrong with Toad&Co’s guarantee – “a compliment within three wearings.” If something’s wrong, they’ll help you out. Sorry, they can’t help you with Aunt Doris’ scowl, though.

\$199 [toadandco.com](http://toadandco.com)



## Toad&Co Intermosso Dress

Available in three colors and made from an incredibly soft fabric that wicks moisture and includes Polygiene odor control, this dress is perfect for travel or for a night out during the chilly winter months. The Intermosso has a great fit with a flowing drape that moves with you as you walk. The keyhole in the back neckline is a sweet touch and gives this dress a hint of playfulness. Our favorite feature is the secret pocket in the right seam, which is ideal for a phone, money, credit cards or passport.

\$99 [toadandco.com](http://toadandco.com)

## Ibex Women’s Pursuit Shell

Inspired by fabric developed during World War II to protect pilots, the Pursuit Shell is made with a traditional textile updated for your modern adventures. It’s made with 100 percent Merino wool that’s been specially woven to be wind- and water-resistant. Weighing in at just over 6 ounces, this jacket feels light as a feather. Seam taping and adjustable drawcords at the hood and waist will keep wind and water out on even the worst days. Be sure to order a size up if you prefer to layer underneath, as the jacket is form fitting.

\$350 [ibex.com](http://ibex.com)







## Sunski Avila Sunglasses

Take these versatile frames straight from the trail to downtown. Lightweight and flexible, these sunglasses feature fun metal details, adding a touch of style to a frame created specifically to keep up with your active lifestyle. Polarized lenses reduce glare and provide a perfectly crisp view while protecting your eyes. The lifetime warranty has you covered should the frames or lenses become damaged in your adventures. Finally, a quality pair of sunnies for under \$60!

**\$58** [sunski.com](https://www.sunski.com)



## Costa Half Moon sunglasses

These sunglasses benefit sharks! This is what we discovered when looking at the signed note inside the case they arrived in. Stylishness with environmental sensibility is a win-win. The blue mirror polarized lenses and smooth black frames compliment the included C-mask, a continuous loop of fabric that can be worn in numerous configurations. The non-slip pads on the temple and nose help them stay put, and Costa’s lifetime product warranty inspires confidence for years to come.

**\$249** [costadelmar.com](https://www.costadelmar.com)

## Forsake Alma Boot

If you’re the type of girl who doesn’t want to sacrifice fashion for all-weather performance—or are shopping for someone who matches that description—these stylish suede wedges should be at the top of your holiday list. Waterproof leather and a trademarked Peak-to-Pavement outsole keep your feet dry while providing grip and traction to keep you stable on variable terrain, from loose gravel to slick ice. The 2-inch hidden wedges paired with a cushioned foot bed provide an ample amount of height while maintaining the boot’s all-day comfort.

**\$150** [forsake.com](https://www.forsake.com)



## Men’s Condor LCX Hunting Boot

The Condor LCX all season boot comes out of the box like it’s been broken in for a month. The first thing you notice when trying them on is how lightweight and comfortable they are. The Condors are breathable and warm, too—they’re rated to 15 degrees Fahrenheit. Superior traction and grip is part of the deal as well, thanks in part to a design partnership with tire manufacturer Michelin. If you’re in the market for a rugged yet comfortable boot, check out the latest from Le Chameau, which has been handcrafting boots for 90 years and counting.

**\$399** [lechameau.com/us](https://www.lechameau.com/us)



## AQUAPHONICS AQ10 speaker by LifeProof

It's waterproof, dirt-proof, snow-proof, drop-proof—it even floats. But more importantly, it brings the beats to the shorelines, ski lodges, skate parks and anywhere else your rugged adventures might take you. With a Bluetooth system that can pair up to eight devices, The AQUAPHONICS AQ10 speaker by LifeProof delivers a wall of sound that's rich, dynamic and loud. Especially advantageous on the river, the AQ10 has a built-in dry box to stash keys, cards, cash, a phone and all your other pocket essentials.

\$200 [lifeproof.com](http://lifeproof.com)



## Portable Power Grips from Metolius

Designed for their simple setup and packability, these wood climbing grips made by Metolius Climbing out of Bend, Oregon, are the ultimate excuse killer. A versatile four-position trainer engages the hands, forearms and core in ways normal pull-ups only dream of. Perfect for anyone wanting to spice up their workout routine this winter, the Portable Power Grips from Metolius are ready to shred.

\$23 [metoliusclimbing.com](http://metoliusclimbing.com)

## Cabiniste Down Bootie

Like little ovens, Cabiniste's Down Booties have no problem keeping your feet warm during the chill of winter with a soft, fleece liner and 450-fill down insulation. Thoughtful snap closures allow two styling options: shin height or ankle cuff. Made for indoor use, slip resistant soles provide traction on wood or tile floors and are comfortable when lounging on the couch. Lightweight and packable, there's no reason not to take these wherever you go—they're perfect for overnight excursions to remote huts, cabins and yurts.

\$55 [cabinisteslippers.com](http://cabinisteslippers.com)

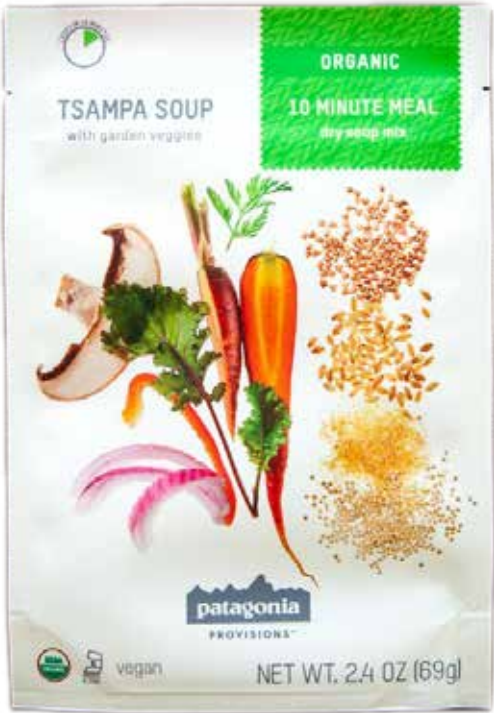


## Rumpl Down Puffy Blanket

Billed as the "Cadillac of outdoor blankets," the Rumpl Down Puffy Blanket is the warmest, travel-ready blanket available, with 600-fill down insulation that keeps you comfortable to 40 degrees Fahrenheit. Its ripstop nylon with DWR coating (made from the same materials as premium sleeping bags and down jackets) repels water, stains, pet hair and odors. This blanket is lightweight—the 54-inch by 80-inch 1-person model weighs less than a pound and a half—and surely merits a spot in your pack for long distance trips, backpacking or whenever space is tight.

From \$150 [rumpl.com](http://rumpl.com)





## Patagonia Provisions

This is a wonderful and convenient line of items perfect for the outdoor enthusiast who doesn't want to sacrifice nutrition and great tasting food while exploring the outdoors. From tasty snacks like their grass-fed, free range Buffalo Jerky to complete meals in a bag that can be cooked in 10 minutes over a campfire, tasty options abound. We're obsessed with the sustainably sourced ingredients and the vegan and gluten-free options including the Black Bean Soup and Red Bean Chili. These options are good to eat, good for you, and good for the planet.

Starting at \$6.50 [patagoniaprovisions.com](http://patagoniaprovisions.com)



## Good To-Go Dehydrated Meals

Jennifer Scism, the highly-acclaimed chef behind Good To-Go, has traveled extensively to study regional foods. And it shows: The Thai Curry entrée (a bestseller) is on par with, if not better than, the favorite spicy dish served at Thai restaurants across the U.S. One bite and you'll forget the misery of choking down bland backpacking meals high in calories and low on flavor. Good To-Go also sells a breakfast line high in protein, fiber and iron and makes several options for restricted diets.

From \$6.50 [goodto-go.com](http://goodto-go.com)



## Hiball Energy Drinks

Hiball Energy drinks have redefined their market with all products using organic, fair trade ingredients. Their sparkling energy water is their most popular product, with zero sugar, a light refreshing taste and an added boost of natural caffeine. Zero calories, zero carbs, zero sugar and zero guilt while drinking—it's all good!

Try their other products including sparkling energy juice, cold brew coffee and their non-caffeinated Alta Palla sparkling juices and waters.

12-pack of 16-ounce sparkling waters \$36 [hiballer.com](http://hiballer.com)

## Pine Ridge Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon 2014

A favorite wine is like your go-to mountain biking trail—it's versatile, satisfying, accessible, and special enough to share with a close friend. This bottle is all of those things. It has a full-bodied and silky flavor with notes of chocolate and berry as well as subtle scents of clove and dried herb. We think it tastes like satisfaction in a bottle, and Wine Enthusiast agrees—they gave it a 91-point rating. Bring one to a dinner party at a friend's house, a backcountry hut or a pack-rafting trip. It will make a memorable experience that much better.

\$64 [pineridgevineyards.com](http://pineridgevineyards.com)





# Stocking Stuffers from gear start-ups



## Give'r Silkweight All Sport Performance Layer

Stretchy and silky smooth, Give'r's Silkweight All Sport Performance layer (\$50) is so comfy, you might forget you're wearing anything at all. Suitable as a stand-alone layer or as a base layer in the winter, the All Sport has a roomy, relaxed fit, and features a hood and thumbholes to keep sleeves down and hands warm in cooler temps. Ladies, keep in mind sizes are unisex and run large.



## Release N Run Dog Leash

This collar (\$40) is a great solution for our canine friends that are off-leash the majority of the time. Its built-in retractable leash allows you to grab your dog for moments when you need to have a bit more control over your hound, and its low-profile design makes it comfortable enough for everyday wear. No need to lug around a bulky leash—let your dog carry it.



## Farm to Feet Alpine Meadows Ski Sock

The under-the-radar California resort that lent its name to this lightweight, snowflake-pattern ski sock boasts some of Lake Tahoe's most varied terrain. Whether cruising the corduroy or flying down the steep and deep, this 100 percent American-produced Merino wool sock (\$25) keeps your feet warm, dry, and, when the boots come off, cute.



## Stop Blisters! by Wool-it

Sometimes it comes back around to the simplest, most natural of remedies—in this case, for blisters. Made of 100 percent, eco-friendly New Zealand wool, Wool-it's Stop Blisters! (\$15) acts as a skin cushion to prevent those hotspots from turning into what can be a debilitating condition for those on the move.

All items are available at [garagegrowngear.com](http://garagegrowngear.com), a Driggs, Idaho-based company that's dedicated to giving a voice to the little guys in the gear world—when they're not out in the mountains testing it out themselves. [garagegrowngear.com](http://garagegrowngear.com)





## Five-night vacation to Nicaragua’s Emerald Coast

Mukul Resort in Nicaragua has all of the ingredients for the perfect escape: adventure, nature, relaxation and fun. To get the most out of the trip, consider practicing daily yoga overlooking the ocean and rejuvenating at one of the six spa sanctuaries to release whatever stress and tension came along for the journey.

The fun continues with uncrowded amenities from golfing on a PGA tour course to surfing at Manzanillo beach with waves for all skill levels to enjoy. The preservation of the beautiful Emerald Coast and

the rich culture of Nicaragua are truly what set Mukul apart from other beach getaways, where it’s evident that both are considered in every detail of the intimate setting.

Mukul is currently running a promotion where you’ll get one free night of accommodation when you book four nights. Book five nights and pay for four.

**Price varies by accommodation [mukulresort.com](http://mukulresort.com)**



## Terranaut Adventure Vans

Custom made in Bozeman, Montana, these get-in-and-go, luxury adventure vans are the ultimate outdoor accessory—from the inside out. Features added to a Mercedes-Benz Sprinter van base include marine-grade wiring and electrical components, custom cabinetry, and durable and washable upholstery for even the muddiest of adventures. The team at Terranaut works with each customer to help hand-select the best components for gear storage, sleeping and galley to ensure that the van is best suited for their excursion of choice. Terranaut Adventure Vans ensure access to the best spots for backcountry skiing, fishing, biking, hunting and more. Perfect for the outdoor enthusiast who has everything else.

**Starting at \$90,000 [terranautvans.com](http://terranautvans.com)**



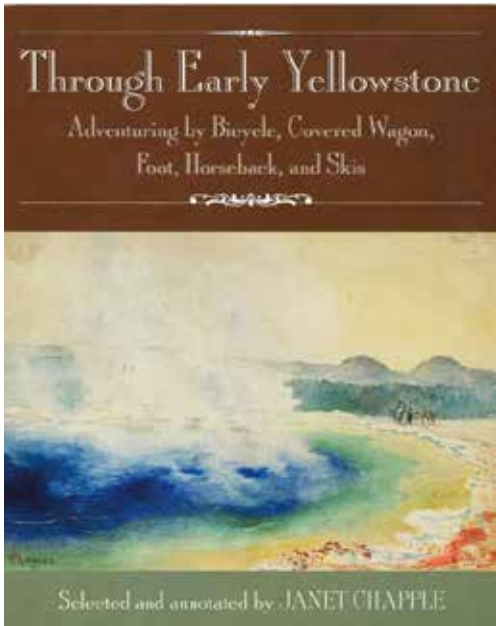




## Neil Young and Promise of the Real album: “The Visitor”

Neil Young has teamed up with Promise of the Real again with “The Visitor,” a 10-track studio album. This is the second studio LP release by Young and POTR, a folk-rock band led by Lukas Nelson, son of Willie Nelson. A 56-piece orchestra plays on “The Visitor,” and it’s billed as “not unlike taking off on a cross-country trip without a map”—there’s a little bit of everything on it, from anthemic tracks to spoken word rock ‘n’ roll.

digital album available Dec. 1 [lukasnelson.com](http://lukasnelson.com)

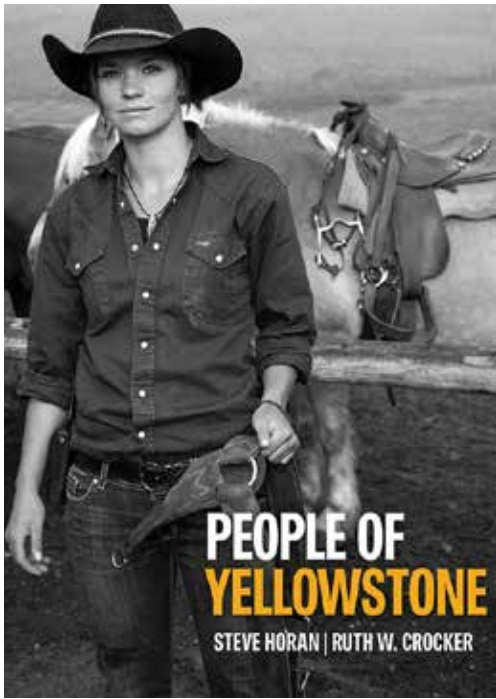


## “Through Early Yellowstone: Adventure by Bicycle, Covered Wagon, Foot, Horseback and Skis” edited by Janet Chapple

As visitation in Yellowstone National Park continues to increase, it can be difficult to imagine what the iconic park looked like in its early days, a time when there were more ungulates inside Yellowstone’s borders than humans.

Janet Chapple, an Oakland, California-based editor, brings that era to life with annotated travel accounts published from 1871-1928. A scholar and lover of Yellowstone history, Chapple worked on the project for almost 15 years. She paired it with a strong collection of artwork—including a gallery of watercolors from an 1884 trip that’s never been exhibited outside of Wales—to further celebrate Yellowstone’s visual splendors.

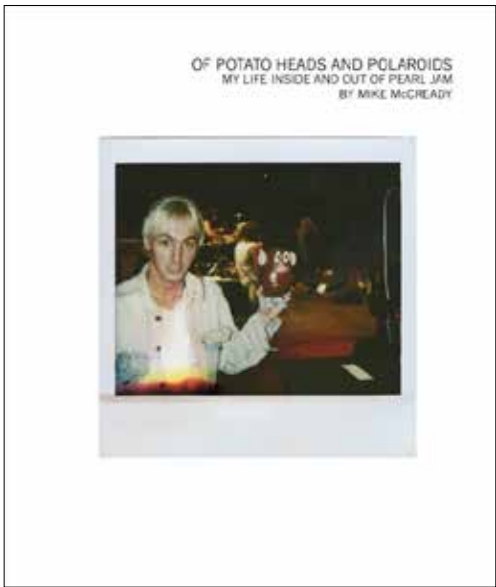
\$30 [yellowstonetreasures.com](http://yellowstonetreasures.com)



## “People of Yellowstone” by Steve Horan and Ruth W. Crocker

Through photography and prose, “People of Yellowstone” celebrates the gamut of lives dedicated to sustaining and preserving the park for past, present and future generations. Among the 87 individuals featured in the book are the obvious park heroes—rangers, rescuers, scientists—creatives and resident eccentrics, but also the less glamorously employed, equally integral park players who work in hospitality, trail maintenance, retail and construction.

\$30 [peopleofyellowstone.com](http://peopleofyellowstone.com)



## “Of Potato Heads and Polaroids – My life inside and out of Pearl Jam” by Mike McCready

Mike McCready is one of the finest hard driving guitar players and songwriters of our era. For nearly three decades, McCready has toured the globe with famed band Pearl Jam, which he helped found. A rock star on stage, McCready’s humble, artistic roots are exemplified in his recent book, “Of Potato Heads and Polaroids – My Life Inside and out of Pearl Jam.” A great gift for any fan of ‘90s rock—or a friend or family member with an appreciation for the spontaneous artistic flair made possible by 80-year old camera technology.

\$30 [pearjam.com/shop](http://pearjam.com/shop)



Support Big Sky businesses this holiday season

Montana Supply

25 Town Center Ave., montanansupply.com

This Treasure-state inspired shop has a range of items in its airy and recently-opened retail space that celebrate the mountain lifestyle. Products that can go from the trail to the town are abundant at Montana Supply.

Co-owners Josh Tozier and Alaina Stinson make decisions on the store’s retail using a tiered selection process: local products first, followed by brands with ethical or “give back” policies, and U.S.-made companies next. Offerings include items for your home like maps and wall art, fashionable apparel and footwear, and accessories to accompany camping trips—all displayed on Montana-sourced fixtures and shelves.

- United by Blue Mugs, \$25-\$35
- Portland Leather Goods Journals, \$32-\$58
- Nipomo Blanket, \$86





### The Tea & Spice Exchange

47 Town Center Ave., Unit 3, spiceandtea.com

With gifts for every taste, The Spice & Tea Exchange is a great place to purchase the makings for classic comfort foods as well as daring new dishes. An extensive selection of spices and herbs, sugars and salts from around the world are displayed in an elegantly designed storefront, making it easy to find a can’t-miss gift. Everybody can use a gourmet salt, loose-leaf tea and custom steak rub in their pantry.



East Slope Outdoors

44 Town Center Ave., eastslopeoutdoors.com

New to East Slope Outdoors is apparel by famed fishing brand SIMMS, and the SIMMS Coldweather long-sleeve shirt in particular has been a strong seller. “Everyone that gets one, they come back for another one,” owner Dave Alvin said. Alvin himself is a fan, calling it the top half of his “winter uniform.” The midlayer retains plenty of heat with minimal bulk for a casual, but still sharp, look.

For the ladies, East Slope is known for selling Bergans of Norway and the Kühl lines—including fuzzy and stylish fleece tops and hooded vests. In this year’s winter selection, Bergans gives wool a sleek, urban look with creative asymmetrical cuts and athletic fits.

- Bergans of Norway Kariel Lady coat, \$349
- Bergans of Norway Bjerke 3-in-1 Lady coat, \$515
- SIMMS Coldweather long-sleeve shirt, \$100







## Willow Boutique

151 Center Lane, willowoutwest.com

Nestled in Meadow Village, Willow Boutique’s apparel and wares reflect the mountains surrounding it. One of the Big Sky’s original stores, Willow Boutique sells a broad range of items that could be termed “ski chic.” With a little something for everyone, this locally owned fashion boutique carries designer women’s clothing, select clothing for men, jewelry, home furnishings, footwear and ski wear.

- Swiss Boots by Ammann, \$363
- Zowee necklaces, \$240-\$300
- Flasks by Top Shelf Flasks, \$22-\$64



## Shelly Bermont Fine Jewelry

32 Market Place, Suite 2, shellybermont.com

Shelly Bermont Fine Jewelry opened in Big Sky’s Meadow Village Center in late July. The artisan goldsmith has earned a reputation for her use of the highest-quality Tahitian and South Sea saltwater pearls, warm-hued opalescent baubles she sets off with leather, gemstone-beadwork, and 18- or 22-karat gold. She also works with the finest turquoise, corral, diamonds, and any unique stone that catches her eye. The jewelry and accessories in her store have a price range of \$100 to \$25,000, but Bermont’s custom pieces can cater to any budget.

- \$800-\$7,500 – assorted earrings
- \$3,850 – green prasiolite and 18-karat gold necklace



## The Cave

33 Lone Peak Dr., Suite 102A, thecavespiritsandgifts.com

For 11 years, The Cave has been Big Sky’s spot for wine, beer, liquor and gifts made in Montana. They have one of the most extensive T-shirt collections in town, and apparel and mementos bearing the Big Sky Resort logo or Lone Mountain image are shopper favorites. With a vast array of cigars and high-end cocktail-making implements, The Cave is also a good place to treat the lusher in your life.

- Bozeman Spirits MT 1887 whisky, \$37
- Blue 84 “To the Mountains I Must Go” shirt, \$32
- Stonefly Studio Flask engraved with Gallatin River map, \$30
- Montana Mugs handmade copper Moscow mule set, \$37



# Keep your holiday shopping local at The Emerson’s Holiday Bazaar

EBS STAFF

Give the gift of art and support regional artists at the Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture’s 16th Annual Holiday Bazaar. Held on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Emerson Ballroom, the market will feature 27 vendors displaying original fine art, sculpture, photography, jewelry, decorative items, accessories and other homespun crafts and unique gifts. A few of this year’s offerings include limited edition nature prints by Mike O’Connell, and exhibitors Ann Wilbert of Love Montana Studios, Western Bound, and Little Pitterpat.

Additional shopping opportunities at The Emerson will include the Bozeman Winter Farmers’ Market, held simultaneously in the Weaver Room, and in the center’s galleries and studios. The holiday bazaar is a fundraiser for The Emerson.

*The Emerson is located at 111 South Grand Ave. Visit [theemerson.org](http://theemerson.org) or call (406) 587-9797 for more information.*



The Emerson’s Holiday Bazaar on Nov. 18 will showcase 27 vendors of local and regional art and gifts, such as this woven and waxed knapsack by Bozeman company Western Bound. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE EMERSON CENTER FOR ARTS AND CULTURE

# Stick close to home for holiday shopping on Small Business Saturday

BY BAY STEPHENS  
EBS EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

After the mania of Black Friday is over, American Express encourages shoppers to buy locally on Nov. 25 as part of their nationwide event, Small Business Saturday. Both Bozeman and Big Sky businesses are participating by offering promotions and special discounts.

Big Sky shoppers will meet between 9 and 10 a.m. at the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce where the day gets rolling with a chance to win one of four \$50 gift cards. After coffee and treats, shoppers can follow a Shop Small Specials guide courtesy of the chamber.

In Bozeman, downtown parking fees will be suspended on Saturday to make it more convenient for shoppers to support local businesses.

American Express founded Small Business Saturday to encourage shoppers to support local businesses in their area. According to statistics on the Downtown Bozeman website, for every \$100 spent at a local business, approximately \$68 stays in the local economy, as opposed to \$43 if the money is spent at a big brand business. The organization also promotes shopping locally because it fosters charitable giving in the community, and supports the employment opportunities that small businesses provide.

Small businesses far exceed big businesses when it comes to charitable donations to nonprofits and community causes, giving 250 percent more, according to the DBA website. It also states that roughly 40 percent of all

retail jobs in the United States exist thanks to small businesses and small franchise businesses employing approximately eight million people across the country.

“Small Business Saturday celebrates the essence of the Big Sky business community,” wrote Big Sky Chamber of Commerce Membership Director Margo Magnant in a Nov. 7 email. “We are largely a collection of independent businesses choosing to work and live in this beautiful, unique setting. For the chamber, this event is a chance to bring our local residents and visitors alike together to kick off the holiday shopping season right here in our community.”

Last year, 32 Big Sky businesses, ranging from boutiques to breweries, participated in the event.

“Small Business Saturday has been a great kick-off to the holiday shopping season for Ari O Jewelry,” said Ari O Jewelry owner Ariane Coleman. Her workshop is connected to her gallery, allowing customers to observe the jewelry-making process, as well as learn the story behind any piece of jewelry they are drawn to.

To find Christmas deals while supporting the local economy, look no further than the surrounding community on Saturday, Nov. 25.

*For more information or to become a participating business email [info@bigskychamber.com](mailto:info@bigskychamber.com) or call (406) 995-3000.*