

The SAFETY SACK

Gone are the days when the only queues you had to worry about at the airport were for checking in and waiting for a coffee. Unfortunately security issues and the idea of luggage tampering has now meant that a large number of us have to join the “plastic wrap your luggage” queue.

Travelers are having their backpacks, suitcases and wheelie bags all wrapped up (for around AUS \$9.00 per item) to ensure that when they get to their destination, they are satisfied that their belongings have not been tampered with. It is a great idea – we all like to minimize risk - but there are a few issues which should be considered:



- 1. The materials used are one-use only (NOT recyclable or reusable)**
- 2. It is up to you to remove and dispose of the huge amount of plastic afterwards**
- 3. You can't get easy access to your luggage once it is wrapped.**

White Mountain™ got to thinking about luggage safety, and we've decided to begin designing a 'Safety Sack'. We are in the early stages of developing the sack which will be light weight, reusable, lockable and act as a deterrent for luggage tampering.

White Mountain™ would love to gain some insight from its members on what YOU believe the design or concept should involve. Email us some comments such as - Do you think the sack will be worthwhile? Are there special considerations you would need in a sack?

Forward comments to:

info@whitemountain.com.au

Pack profiles

With the 2006 **SKI SEASON** just about to start in Australia, it is worth thinking about the essential accessories for when you are on **slopes!**



Cross Country

Was \$65.08

NOW
\$40.68

(excludes GST)



Ideal for: Skiing, bike riding

Capacity: 8.65 litres

Size: 24x32x9 cms

Weight: 450 grams

Special Feature: Waterproofed with PU coating, airflow mesh, 3M® reflective strip, facility to hold sports helmet.

Skier 3

Was \$66.00

NOW
\$49.50

(excludes GST)



Ideal for: Skiing

Capacity: 10.5 litres

Size: 24 x33x17 cms

Weight: 550 grams

Special Feature: Waterproofed with PU coating, padded back, excellent compression system

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Packing your backpack: how much weight & where do I put stuff?



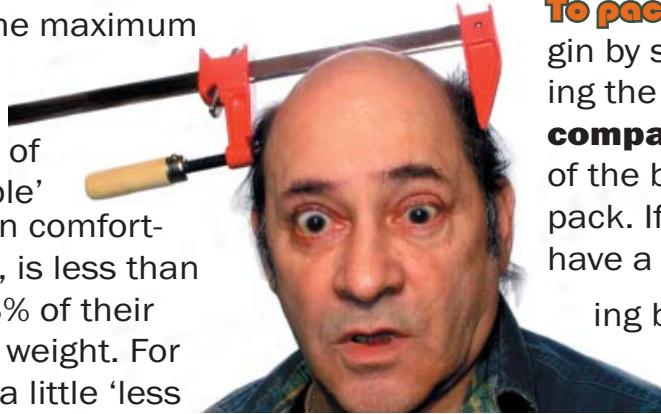
Loading your pack correctly can save a lot of headaches when you're on the road.

White Mountain™ recommend the maximum weight that an individual of 'reasonable' fitness can comfortably carry, is less than 1/3 or 33% of their own body weight. For everyone a little 'less than fit', we recommend less than 1/4 or 25% of their own body weight in total backpack weight.

For example, I am 65 kgs and I am a little less than fit at present (all this work sitting in front of the compu-

ter working on the newsletter!), so I would ideally only carry 16 1/4 kgs. That is way heavy enough if you are doing a long day of walking!

To pack, begin by stuffing the **lower compartment** of the backpack. If you have a sleeping bag,



stuff this into the lower compartment first, then fill all other space in the lower compartment with any bulky items that are without weight, making sure you fill all the bottom corners. It is essential to create a solid

foundation for the rest of the load in the upper compartment.

Load the remainder of your gear with heavy items (such as your stove and cooking gear) near your back, and as high as possible in the upper compartment. Pack the lighter gear lower and away from the back. On travel packs, the daypack should only contain lightweight essential items and definitely nothing heavy.

N.B. If your load is less than full, use your compression straps to compress and hold the load tight and prevent backpack sway. Avoid backpack sway, as any excess of movement created would quickly cause fatigue.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q What is the difference between front and top loading packs?

Justin, Melbourne

A Front loading packs are traditionally a travel backpack which operates in a similar manner to a suitcase in that they have a large opening on the front of the pack, making it easy to load and access all of the contents; they are suited to travel where there is minimal walking through

bush or forest and are often slightly wider than a top loading pack. One drawback is that the zips and extra stitching are an extra point for rain to enter, although this can be overcome by utilizing a rain cover.

Top loading packs are 'fail-safe' as they don't rely on zippers, are more water resistant with fewer zippers and less stitching and are often narrower than travel packs to allow for easy walking on bush / forest tracks. They can however,

be difficult to access, particularly when the gear you want is at the bottom of the pack (as you have to rummage through all the items on top before you can get to them).

Most top loading backpacks close with a drawstring and have an extra extension that allows the pack to be overstuffed - in some cases, top loading packs can be extended upward allowing as much as 20 L of extended packing. An example of when you might overstuff a pack is at the beginning of a long trip when you have lots of food.

Write to us: If you have any questions or comments please forward them to us: Email: info@whitemountain.com.au or phone 1800 620 073



CLEARANCE SALE

White Mountain is having its **BIGGEST EVER CLEARANCE SALE** at **NEVER TO BE REPEATED PRICES.**

Visit our website for to see our **FULL** range of clearance items.

Trailblazer - 35litre



Was \$184.00

NOW \$114.59*

Book Pack 2 - 23.5 litre



Was \$51.88

NOW \$25.94*

RockStar - 32 litre



Was \$78.12

NOW \$43.95*

Possum - 38 litre



Was \$92.00

NOW \$46.00*

*Note: Prices Exclude GST

White Mountain™ Adventure

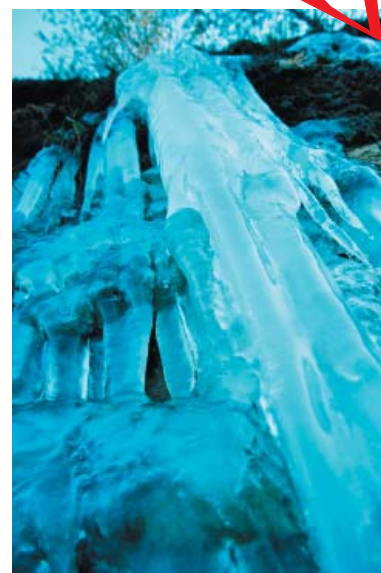
A couple of years ago, whilst visiting France, I read in the Lonely Planet guide that there was a really cool archaeological site in a little place called Les Eyzies in the Vézère Valley. The whole area is classified by UNESCO as part of the world's heritage. Les Eyzies is only one of many sites in the area where Prehistoric skeletons were discovered in 1868. Cro-Magnon man remains (Picture 1) are around 35,000 years old and are anatomically identical to modern humans. Some of the stuff found in the area support that Cro-Magnon man lived in a world of 'cultural advancement'



Cro-Magnon man remains

with finely crafted stone and bone tools, shell and ivory jewellery, and polychrome paintings found on cave walls. You can see a lot of these at the little museum in the town. The countryside is also surprisingly beautiful, with cliffs overhanging the fast flowing river and cultivated fields. When I went there, it was bloody freezing (there were icicles on the side of the road where dripping water had frozen overnight – see Picture 2). It made me feel pretty close to nature and my 'roots', particularly as I had to walk to the museum from my accommodation - there was no public transport available so early in the morning.

I really recommend going to the area knowing that our ancestors had been there all that time ago. It is kind of weird though, when you see how 'advanced' some of the artefacts are, that we have only advanced to where we are in 35,000 years. We really progress pretty slowly when you think of it.



Road side Icicles - Les Eyzies

Jennifer, Fingal Bay, NSW, Australia

**Send us your adventure story
receive a further 10% discount
coupon.**

Send your stories to:

info@whitemountain.com.au



Competitions

Monthly Premium Draw

The winner will receive

EuroTravel - EYS



Valued at: **\$284.92**

Monthly find-a-fault

The winner will receive

University 1 - 30 litre



Valued at: **\$51.88**

win with the **find-a-fault** **Compl!**

Treasure Hunt

The winner will receive



Competition Winners - May 2006

Monthly Travel Pack Winner

Cheryl Eddy

Monthly Discount Voucher 35% OFF

Dalice Au

find - a - fault

John Toniato

20% discount

Anne Graham

University 1 & 20% discount

Viv Lunt

20% discount

"The section "Torso Length" is still referring to the older superseded SSS design. Should that be SHS now?"

"There was no capital letter at the beginning of the sentence: "the next person..." in "Fault finders""

"I went to the price list, clicked on 'Euro 70' but 'Euro 80' comes up."

If you find a mistake in Pack Chat or on the web-site, post it on the on-line forum (via the White Mountain™ Members area) or email it to us at info@whitemountain.com.au.

First person to **find-a-fault** receives a University 1, each fault-finder there after will receive 20% off their next White Mountain™ purchase.

Important Notes:

Winners will be notified via email and entries will be posted on the White Mountain Members forum.

Each White Mountain Member is eligible for 1 find-a-fault discount per calander month.

The Evolution of Pack People

COMING SOON



www.whitemountain.com.au

