



# Portable battery packs for camping

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Electronics are essential items in many hikers' backpacks, so getting the best power bank to keep them going on trail is really important. Whatever your electronics setup looks like, we know it can be a real drag when something runs out of juice in the backcountry.

We've researched more than 40 power banks over the last four years, and tested 25 of the most promising battery packs on trail to bring you this guide. Whether your charging needs are extensive or you just need a simple battery to top up your phone every once in a while, our expertise will help you find the best power bank for your adventures.

One of the lightest, most efficient, and most portable power banks on the market, it is no wonder that the Nitecore NB10000 Gen 3 is one of our favorite models. While testing the Nitecore for several weeks, we had the opportunity to put it on our scale, run it through some efficiency and charging tests, and bring it along with us on backpacking trips in the San Juan Mountains.

We love how easy it is to bring along due to its small size and its minor weight penalty makes it a fantastic choice for ultralight purists. It also packs a punch with the most number of Watt hours available per ounce of any power bank we tested. It is a bit pricier, but in this case we feel that hikers get what they pay for when it comes to the Nitecore.

The OKZU 10000 is a solid power bank that performs reliably in various metrics, smashes the competition in recharging time, and only has a few weaknesses. Considering its price, it is among the best choices for those looking to balance cost and performance.

We like that the OKZU was the fastest model to recharge from dead to full, coming in at a speedy two and a half hours. It had a respectable weight when placed on our scale and its power output is above average on a per-ounce basis. After weeks of use and being dropped on the ground, it continues to work as normal and has enough features to make it useful for the average user. What it lacks in portability and cold tolerance can be easily overlooked in most situations.

For a slight weight, portability, and performance penalty, the INIU Megapower 10000 offers solutions to problems in other top-performing 10,000 mAh power banks. We love that this power bank recharges quickly, saving us time so that we can spend more time on the trail and less in town.

The Megapower's pass-through charging capabilities and multiple charging ports also add convenience. This power bank has decent power efficiency, and it is easy to tell how much battery is left with an easy-to-read analog display. The best part? The INIU Megapower 10000 has an affordable price tag, making it an excellent choice for those on a budget.

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In order to account for the larger size and weight of a bigger battery, the best approach to looking at the INIU 20000 PD is through the lens of a 20,000 mAh power bank. Compared to 10,000 mAh battery packs, its performance levels typically won't stand up due to its larger battery size. Larger capacity power banks are a different matter: it is a strong contender and one of our favorite picks.

Overall, it is our second-best large-capacity power bank in weight, charging speed, and portability, and it ranks as the best 20,000 mAh power bank in many other categories. In the field we found that it fit nicely in our hands due to its shape and volume. On our scale, it also had a very modest weight in comparison to the size of the battery. When we timed how long it took to recharge, the INIU 20000 PD spent five and a half hours filling up with juice which seems pretty reasonable given it will recharge a phone fully nearly four times.

Speaking of charges, we like that it is the second most efficient power bank out of all the banks we tested, which means you get a lot of power for what is being carried. While it does struggle to stay efficient in colder temperatures, many of the features it offers and a very affordable price tag make this model stand out for us.

At 26,800 mAh, the Charmast is the largest capacity power bank we tested and also one of our favorites. We were pleasantly surprised to see it frequently beat out smaller-capacity power banks in areas such as weight on our scale, power-to-weight output, portability, and durability. On backpacking trips, we often find ourselves reaching for this bank over many of the other high-capacity power banks and are impressed by its thin, sleek design.

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