

Websites and Apps for hikers:

WEATHER

[Weather.gov](https://www.weather.gov): a NOAA US government site used by providers to forecast the weather

You can click on your exact location, and it will extrapolate for your elevation. From its graphs you can see what hour the rain or snow is expected, temperature by the hour, wind speed and direction, and so much more.

[Mountain-Forecast.com](https://www.Mountain-Forecast.com): detailed weather for several peaks in Colorado

Weather Underground [wunderground.com](https://www.wunderground.com): only for city locations.

NAVIGATION

[CalTopo Maps](https://www.CalTopo.com): Caltopo.com

For mapping your hike, planning the route, taking bearings, downloading a gpx file to your phone, sharing a map with others.

GPS Apps for your phone (Compare info given for Mt Audubon CO)

[GAIA](#) – Pro version \$59.90/year which unlocks more maps

[AllTrails](#) – best for trip reports – Pro version \$35.99/year

[COTREX](#) – Colorado specific, free, shows closed trails

CalTopo – good for planning hikes, pro version \$50/year on your laptop, \$20/year for the app

[Hiking Project](#) – from REI, good to get ideas

Google Maps – download maps ahead of time to get you to the trailhead.

[Far Out Guides](#) – for long distance trails

The iPhone 14 now adds rudimentary satellite SOS capability send and receive text messages.

The new iPhone 16 can do some texting via satellite if no cell service is available

SNOW

[CAIC](#) – avalanche forecast

[Snotel](#) – snow estimates

[Open snow](#) – snow estimates, All Access \$31.99/year

OTHER APPS OF INTEREST

Apps to identify mountains

[PeakFinder](#)

[PeakVisor](#)

Apps to Identify Plants

Seek by [iNaturalist](#)

[PictureThis](#)

[PlantSnap](#)

[SkyView Lite](#) – to identify stars

Cairnme.com, **Cairn in app store** – to find cell service, let others keep track of your progress

EMERGENCIES

Personal Locator Devices - Devices to Call for SOS help

PLB's – Sends out a distress call

[ARC Rescue Link](#)

Send/Receive – send message

[Garmin Mini 2](#)- two way communication

[SPOT](#) – sends only

A review from Gear Lab [Feb 2024](#)

[Out Alive](#) podcast from Backpacker – mountain rescues

I recommend you listen to "[We Fell Down the Mountain](#)" which takes place on South Boulder Peak right outside of Boulder

Gear book recommendation

[Ultimate Hiker's Gear Guide by Andrew Skurka](#)

Other lightweighting resources...

Lightweighting your gear...

<https://www.litesmith.com>

<https://www.garagegrowngear.com>

<https://backpackinglight.com>

<https://www.reddit.com/r/Ultralight/>

Used gear around Denver

[REI used gear and garage sales](#)

[Feral](#) on Tennyson

[Boulder Gear Recycler](#)

[Wilderness Exchange](#)

Check in secondhand stores for clothing