



# Outdoor

# X4

THE *gear issue*



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## Danner Trail 2650 Campo Hiking Shoe \$140



For serious hiking, I'm a boot person, in spite of all my friends yammering on about how comfortable and lightweight their hiking shoes are. The ankle protection in particular is a big thing for me, but after experiencing the stability the Danner Trail 2650 Campo hiking shoe offers, I may consider a permanent change.

The shoe's "2650" designation is a nod to the length of the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), and this footwear is made to provide the versatility needed for the wide variety of terrain on the PCT and most other trails a hiker is likely to encounter.

Danner's intention with the Trail 2650 is to offer a lightweight shoe that adheres to the durability standards they've developed over nearly a century of making boots in the Pacific Northwest, starting with building those that withstand the rugged demands of loggers. Today they produce footwear for a variety of uses and these trail shoes combine their "legendary durability" with comfort and utility.

At a weight of 18 ounces per pair, the Trail 2650 is indeed light. The upper combines leather and textile for abrasion resistance and a mesh lining provides breathability for comfort in warm temperatures. The EXO heel system makes the fit comfortable and secure and Danner's Trailguard TPU shank enhances stability and underfoot protection.

But the real pièce de résistance is the Vibram® 460 Outsole. Danner says the self-adapting lugs and specially formulated Megagrip compound "provide long-wearing resilience with incredible grip on both wet and dry surfaces." I tested these shoes climbing up, down and around on slick granite surfaces and the performance was outstanding, providing some very nice reassurance in some pretty sketchy spots. The stability was quite satisfactory as well so I look forward to putting lots more miles on the Trail 2650s.

I did find it strange that the shoe has a "sock-like construction," which may be intended to enhance stability but means it's a pain to put these shoes on, since the upper expands very little for insertion of the foot. This is a small thing that I can adjust to but at first it was a bit off-putting. All in all, however, it's a quality shoe that should give me lots of good miles of hiking.

[DANNER.COM](http://DANNER.COM)

