



Outdoor

X4

THE
gear issue



ISSUE | 40



GRAYL GEOPRESS Purifier \$90

The dark art of water purification is a necessary evil not only for backpackers, but also for overlanders who travel to remote areas, and for those visiting parts of the world where tap water is not safe to drink. I call it a “dark art” because whatever goes on inside a device that turns bad water into good seems to me (definitely not a chemist) much like the ancient practice of alchemy, that magical process of turning iron to gold. As an aspiring alchemist of water, I’ve used a wide range of filters and purifiers, many of them unwieldy. My latest, a gravity filter, is light in weight and great for backpacking, but preventing cross-contamination of dirty water and clean is a major pain.

Enter GRAYL, a Seattle-based company making water purifiers since 2016. Their technology, using ion exchange, ultra-powdered activated carbon, removes 99.9% of viruses, bacteria and protozoan cysts from water at a flow rate of five liters per minute. Their purifiers also filter particulates, chemicals, pesticides, heavy metals, flavors and odors. Sounds like gold to me.

What really appeals to me is the way GRAYL’s GEOPRESS purifier works. You scoop up the dirty water in the outer shell, insert the inner container/filter and press down. It does take some effort, but in a matter of seconds, you have 24 ounces of drinkable water. GRAYL’s SimpleVent Drink Cap protects the drinking spout from cross-contamination and allows you to drink the purified water directly from the GEOPRESS. Pretty handy.

The GEOPRESS is a new entry into the GRAYL line-up, which started with the ULTRALIGHT compact purifier, filtering 16 ounces of water at a time. At nearly a pound, the GEOPRESS is a bit heavy for backpacking, but suitable for countless other applications. For backpacking, the ULTRALIGHT’s 10.9 ounces might be a better fit. In either case, GRAYL’s water purifiers offer an intriguing option and GRAYL’s philosophy of contributing a portion of every sale to non-profit organizations that protect and preserve the natural environment is appealing, as are their plans for a Zero Waste cartridge recycling program beginning Summer 2021.

GRAYL.COM

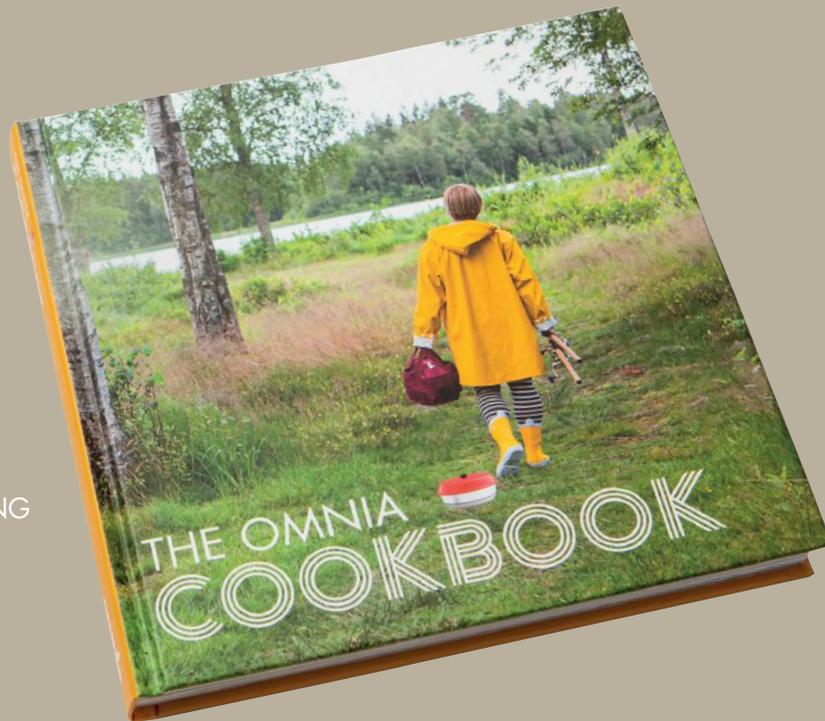


BY SUSAN DRAGOO



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