

EDITORS' CHOICE AWARDS

BOULDERING

*sport*

TRAD

ALPINE

BASECAMP



## MOUNTAIN HARDWEAR HUECO 35

*sturdy all-purpose pack*

→“This little hauler was excellent for everything I threw in it,” our main tester said of this midsize pack. With 35 liters of space, it was the perfect fit for moderate-weather days of sport, trad, and even ice. He threw it around at sandstone crags in Utah and at New Hampshire destinations with their trademark unforgiving schist, and he was consistently impressed with how the 840-denier ballistic nylon stood up to all kinds of abuse. “I was surprised how much I used the outer handle on the back; it was perfect for the grab-and-go movement from route to route,” he said. The beefy but ventilated CoolWave suspension mimics that of a much higher-volume pack, so our tester was still smiling under loads up to 35 pounds. A few of the extras were unique and useful, too: A separate lid that unzips to accommodate a rope or a helmet, including a special V-shaped strap to hold either in place. Ice tool loops on the bottom increased the versatility, and two water bottle pockets on the outside left more room inside for necessary gear—and made it easy to hydrate on long approaches.

\$130; [mountainhardwear.com](http://mountainhardwear.com)

## interview

### Marc Gutiérrez and José Luis Gallego

Product Designers, Tenaya Oasi

Marc Gutiérrez and José Luis Gallego live and breathe rock climbing. So it's not surprising that the inspiration for the Oasi came while climbing on the Mediterranean coast after a discussion about wanting a shoe that had the right balance between beauty, functionality, and comfort. “The perfect shoe,” Gallego says, “would be the one that offers the ideal response to what the foot demands, which is comfort, efficiency, and the right performance in any situation.” According to him, a climbing shoe doesn't need to be painful since it won't respond to your foot if it hurts. After two years of hard work in research and development, the Oasi was born, representing all of these features. Designers had the goal from the beginning to make a highly specialized shoe that's versatile at the same time, one that would make climbing more intuitive. By including stiffness in some areas and flexibility in others, this shoe meets that goal. The small details like figuring out the width of the shoe and adjusting the strap system were constantly tweaked. “Reaching a point where the Oasi is aggressive and balanced at the same time, with a wide range of responses, and always with comfort, was something difficult to achieve,” Gallego says.



## TENAYA OASI

*max versatility, max performance*

→“They're stiff yet supple, and that perfect combination gives them a better feel and more uses than all the other high-performance rock shoes out there. Plus, the brilliant lacing system fits a wider variety of feet.” Read the full review on page 18.

\$165; [trango.com](http://trango.com)