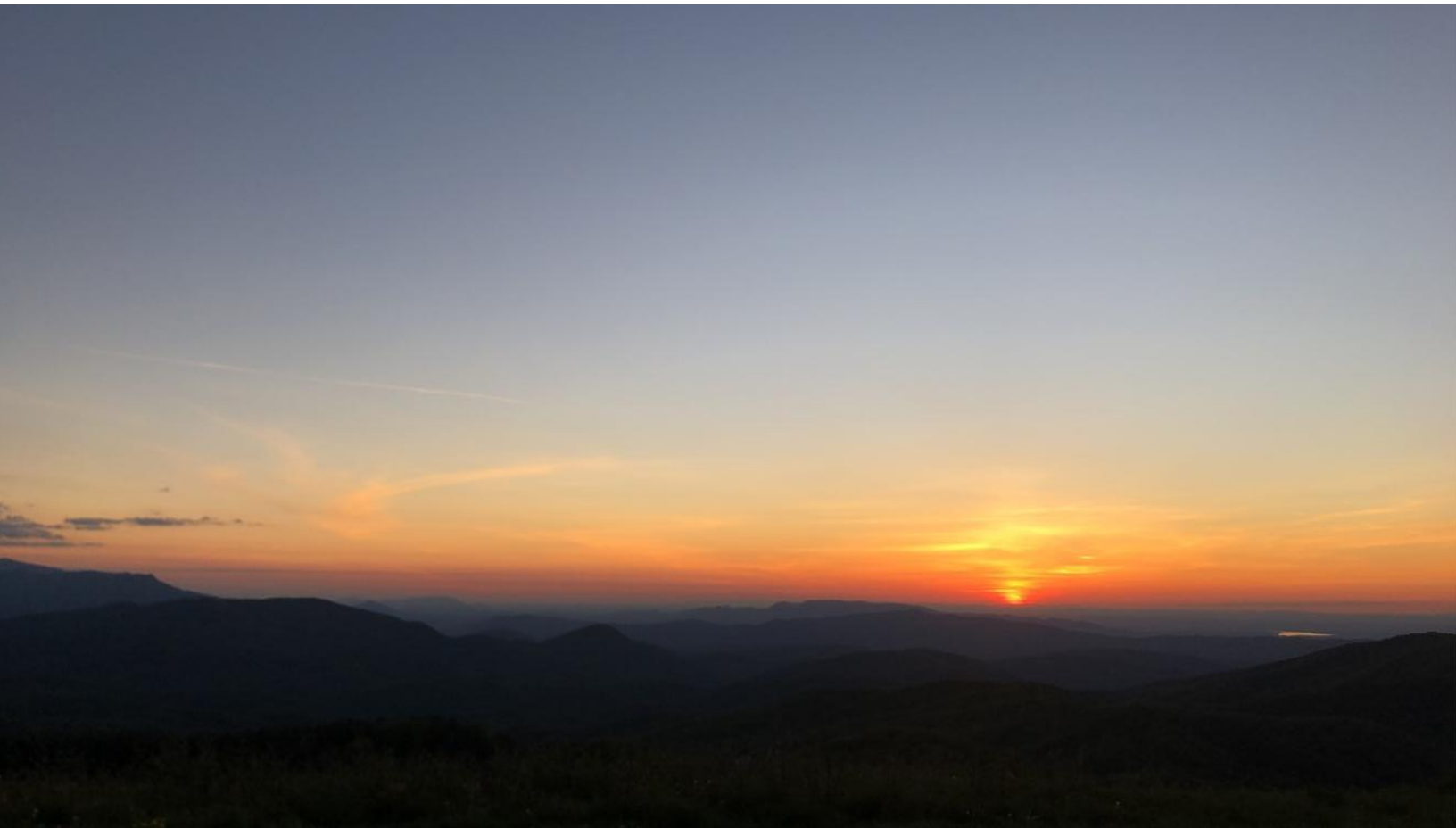


WEST 2020 Master Guide

Brandon Daniels

Last Edit: 11/30/2021

"Life happens wherever you are, whether you make it or not." - Iroh, the Dragon of the West



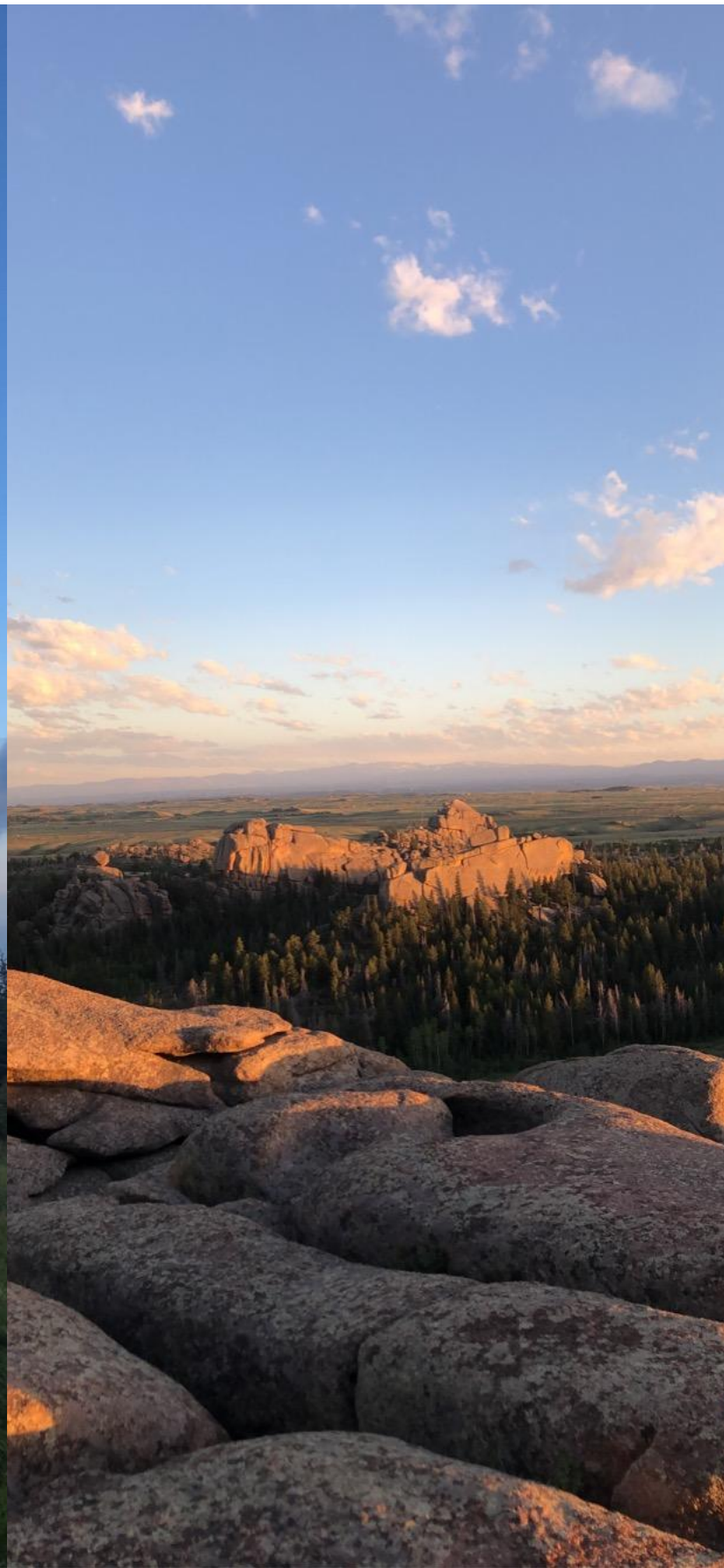






















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Introduction

Over the summer of 2020 (May 25 - Aug 7), I traveled around the United States, primarily living out of my car in order to see as much of the country's natural beauty as possible. Visiting 15 states, passing through several more, I traveled over 15,000 miles during the trip. I wanted to be able to consolidate all the details of this journey into a thorough guide explaining where I went, who I saw, what trails I hiked, what I ate, how I cooked, how I slept, the good times, the bad times, and all the ins and outs of my life on the road. I also broke down the cost of the trip, and what I did to save money. I want people to be able to use this document as a resource to turn their dream of traveling the country into a reality! Thank you so much to Mitchell who was the biggest inspiration for me to commit to doing this, and helped a lot to make it happen.

The first portion of this document will be an overview of key logistics (everything I brought with me & how I organized it), how I lived (cooking, washing clothes, bathing), highlights of the places I visited and trails hiked, and the cost breakdown of the entire trip. The second portion of this document will be a detailed day-to-day report of everything I did and I'll mix in journal entries and pictures to bring the journey to life. (Part two not ready).

GEAR

Considering I had never done any serious camping before, (only backyard sleepovers and festival camping) I had a lot to learn about what was actually important to take. I imagined myself mostly camping by my car, but I also wanted the option to do some overnight backpacking trips along the way. This is the gear I ended up with for the trip. I tried to shop for sales, so I'll put the current price and what I paid. There were also many things I already owned, so I'll list those as well in separate tables.

Newly Purchased

Item	Description	Current Cost	I Paid	Link
Sleeping Pad	Big Agnes. Inflatable sleeping pad for camping. Size - Regular	Not Available	\$80	https://www.rei.com/rei-garage/product/171141/big-agnes-q-core-slx-sleeping-pad
Tent	Big Agnes. One person tent. Lightweight at ~3 lbs.	\$280	\$229	https://www.bigagnes.com/Seedhouse-SL1
Trowel	Dig holes for your poop!	\$5.50	\$5.50	https://www.rei.com/product/799009/gsi-outdoors-cathole-sanitation-trowel
Tarp	Lay down underneath the tent to protect against punctures from sharp objects. 8ft x 6ft	\$5	\$5	https://www.rei.com/product/848882/outdoor-products-all-purpose-tarp
Camping Stove	JetBoil - lightweight and compact	\$150	\$150	https://www.rei.com/product/876918/jetboil-minimo-cooking-system
Spork	Lightweight titanium spork	\$9.95	\$7.89	https://www.rei.com/product/660002/snow-peak-titanium-spork
Day Trip Backpack	Camelbak Rim Runner 22 2.5 Liter Reservoir	Not Available	\$100	https://www.rei.com/product/114206/camelbak-rim-runner-22-hydration-pack-25-liters
Shammy Towel	Packtowl Original - Medium	\$13.95	\$13.95	https://www.packtowl.com/original/original.html
Everything Soap	Dr. Bronner's 18 in 1 Lavender Hemp Pure Castile Soap Biodegradable - Used for Everything!	\$10	\$14	https://www.heb.com/product-detail/dr-bronner-s-18-in-1-hemp-lavender-pure-castile-soap/601379
Portable Charger	When your phone needs some juice, this is what you	\$33.99	\$33.99	https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07S322S1P/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b

	use. 4-5 full charges.			asin_title_o02_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1
Bear Spray	If a bear is trying to kill you, this is what you use to stand a chance.	\$54.95	\$54.95	https://www.rei.com/product/154929/counter-assault-bear-deterrent-spray-102-fl-oz

Already Owned or Borrowed (B)

Item	Description	Current Cost	Link
Yeti Cooler	Tundra 45	\$299	https://www.yeti.com/en_US/coolers/hard-coolers/tundra/45/YT45.html
Travel Backpack	Osprey Porter 46. Big fan of this backpack/suitcase	\$140	https://www.rei.com/product/112654/osprey-porter-46-travel-pack
Water Filter	Sawyer Water Filter	\$21.95	https://www.rei.com/product/890900/sawyer-mini-water-filter
Plastic Plate/Bowl	Cheap plate and bowl	\$2	Any grocery store/walmart has these
Pillow	Incredibly important invention for comfortable sleep, especially when camping.	\$17.99	https://www.amazon.com/Cervical-Ergonomic-Orthopedic-Sleepers-Sleeping/dp/B09JVND6BC/ref=sr_1_12?keywords=memory+foam+pillow&qid=1636236863&sr=8-12
Travel Knife	Vital for spreading cream cheese on a bagel	\$9.95	https://www.amazon.com/ZYLISS-Paring-Sheath-3-5-Inch-Stainless/dp/B0018I8PXM/ref=sr_1_4?keywords=travel+knife+with+cover&qid=1636237146&sr=8-4
Sleeping Bag (B)	No Limits 32. Lightweight sleeping bag rated to 32 degrees Fahrenheit	N/A	N/A
Backpacking Pack (B)	Lightweight 50L backpack for backpacking	N/A	N/A
Lightweight Blanket (B)	Blanket for even more warmth inside the sleeping bag. Incredibly useful on those 34 degree nights.	N/A	N/A
Lightweight Pillow (B)	Pillow for backpacking, does NOT compare to a normal pillow	N/A	N/A
Mallet (B)	Hammer your stakes into the ground for your tent!	N/A	N/A

Mosquito Net (B)	Keep those bugs away and stay sane	N/A	N/A
Compass (B)	Know your orientation	N/A	N/A

Wishlist Items

Item	Description
Wood Saw	Cut some branches or fallen trees for firewood. Alternatively buy firewood.
Compression Bags for Clothes	Store your clothes more efficiently. Gain more space, an extremely valuable resource when travelling out of your car.
Headlamp	Hands free flashlight for those early morning hikes. I used my phone flashlight, but a headlamp would be a great replacement.
Hiking Poles	Keep your body position in check. Helps with better posture, and takes the weight off of your knees especially when hiking downhill.
Sun Reflectors for Car	Help prevent the sun from turning your car into an oven during the day. I really wish I had these when I was in the desert and the water in the front seat was hot by the end of the day.
Water Purification Tablets	An alternative to the water filter. These would be good for purifying the 2.5L in the camelbak, which would save time/effort of squeezing out the filter bag 10+ times.

CLOTHES

I wanted to be able to go two weeks without washing clothes, so I decided to pack enough for a “normal” week's worth and wear everything for at least two days. I wanted to get actual hiking shorts and pants instead of only having athletic shorts and jeans, and I also wanted tough, waterproof hiking shoes, and a rain jacket for those wet Pacific Northwest hikes. I bought the beanie in Washington when I was tired of being freezing cold every night up north.

Purchased

Item	Description	Current Cost	I Paid	Link
Hiking Shoes	<u>Merrell Moab 2 Waterproof Hiking Shoes - Men's</u>	\$125	\$99	https://www.rei.com/product/113824/merrell-moab-2-waterproof-hiking-shoes-mens
Hiking Shorts	<u>prAna Stretch Zion Shorts - Men's</u>	\$69	\$52	https://www.rei.com/product/109828/prana-stretch-zion-shorts-mens-10-inseam
Hiking Pants	<u>prAna Stretch Zion Pants - Men's</u>	\$89	\$64	https://www.rei.com/product/146929/prana-stretch-zion-pants-mens
Rain Jacket	<u>REI Co-op Talusphere Rain Jacket - Men's</u>	\$49	\$67	https://www.rei.com/product/892144/rei-co-op-talusphere-rain-jacket-mens
Beanie	<u>Good ol' beanie to keep the head warm</u>	\$17.95	\$14	https://www.rei.com/product/119920/rei-co-op-logo-beanie?color=BLACK/ASPHALT

Laundry List

Item	Quantity
Short Sleeve Shirt	7
Long Sleeve Shirt	3
Shorts	5
Jeans	1
Pajama Pants	1
Hiking Pants	1
Underwear	7

Socks	7
Long Sleeve Under Armour	1
Sweatshirt	1
Beanie	1
Down Jacket	1
Rain Jacket	1
Hiking Shoes	1
Running Shoes	1
Sneakers	1
Slides	1
Sunglasses	1
Sun Hat	1

Wishlist Items

Item	Description
Sock Silk Liners	Blister no more!
Wool Socks	I've only heard and seen good things about wool socks, but haven't bought any yet.
Neck Gaiter	Keep your face and neck warm. Would be great on those cold morning hikes and windy days.
Long Johns	Insulate the legs. Not super important over the summer, but I can imagine them being useful in the other seasons.
Snow Gloves	On the occasional snowy hikes, these would have been useful for preventing ice burn and numb fingers. Solid investment.

FUN

These are the things I brought for entertainment on the trip. Almost all of these were gifts I've received over the years, so I'm not sure how much they were. I did buy the hackysack (\$5) and the ukulele (\$30). Thank you Allyson for the ukulele.

The Goods
Slackline
Hackysack
Hammock
Book 1 - On the Road by Jack Kerouac
Book 2 - What the Dog Saw by Malcolm Gladwell
Road Atlas - National Geographic Adventure Edition
Journal
Outdoor Blanket
Acoustic Guitar
Ukulele
Yoga Mat
Foam Roller
Bluetooth Speaker

FOOD

This section is for all the food I ate on the trip other than eating out at restaurants. I wanted to eat as barebones as possible in order to save money and see what it would be like to eat the kind of food oftenly used for backpacking. I learned to love all of this food, and didn't feel guilty for eating some of the unhealthier things because I was hiking so much I just needed calories. Normally, I would eat breakfast, snack until lunch, eat lunch, snack until dinner, and then eat dinner. Some days, like after a big hike, I would double up on breakfast and dinner. For example, I would eat oatmeal and a bagel and cream cheese for breakfast, and then for dinner I would do double ramen and double egg. Also I'm allergic to nuts, so trail mix, peanut butter, and other nutty food would be fantastic for a road trip but they're not listed here.

Having the Yeti with 16-20 pounds of ice, my food would stay cold for 4-7 days depending on the temperature of the location. For example, in the week I went from Colorado to the Tetons to Idaho (mild days and cold nights) it lasted a week, but when I was in southern California and Arizona (hot hot days and hot nights), it lasted about 4 days.

For cooking, I used the Jetboil. It's great for cooking for one, but can also cook for two if you're careful about spilling. I believe they also sell larger sized attachments for it. More often than not, there wouldn't be any picnic tables nearby, so I would cook in the front seat of my car, passenger side for space. The Jetboil is really easy to clean, a few drops of Dr. Bronners with water and a sponge does the job.

Cooking, Storing, and Water

- Water - Five 1-Gallon Jugs
- Ice for Cooler - Two 8 or 10 pound bags
- Olive Oil
- Seasonings

Breakfast

- Eggs, Beans, and Spinach
- Oatmeal
- Bagel & Cream Cheese (sometimes add smoked salmon)

Snacks

- Beef Jerky
- Dried Fruit (Craisins my go-to, also mangoes)
- Wheat Thins (Tomato & Basil is legendary)
- Skinny Pop
- Hot & Spicy Cheez Its
- Gold Fish
- Pita Chips
- Hummus

- Cheese (Pepper Jack or Gouda my go-to)
- Granola (I love Kashi and Nature Valley)

Lunch

- Ham and Cheese Sandwiches
- Tuna Sandwich on King's Hawaiian Rolls
- Tortilla Wraps - Hummus, shredded carrots, avocado, spinach

Dinner

- Noodles and olive oil
- Spaghetti with marinara sauce (add ground beef for a punch)
- Fettuccine alfredo
- Ramen - Crack an egg or two in there, it's a game changer

CAR ORGANIZATION

<u>Camping Box</u> Tent Sleeping Bag Sleeping Pad Lightweight Blanket Lightweight Pillow Tarp Mosquito Net Mallet Trowel	<u>Kitchen Box</u> Jet Boil and Fuel Spork Hand Sanitizer Dr. Bronner's Dish Towel Can Opener Lunch Bag Laundry Detergent Plate and Bowl Travel Knife	<u>Cooking Bin</u> Oatmeal Pasta Breads Olive Oil Seasonings Big Goldfish Box Tea Supplies Box of Ramen Tuna Fish	<u>Hygiene/Medicine Box</u> Toothpaste Toothbrush Asthma Medication Deodorant Razor Ibuprofen Band Aids Neosporin Multivitamins Vitamin C Hair Ties/Brush
<u>Electronics Box</u> Portable Charger Extra iPhone Cable Bluetooth Speaker Headphones	<u>Sunscreen Bag</u> Spray Sunscreen OG Banana Boat Mosquito Repellent Aloe Cream	<u>Slackline Bag</u> Slackline Hammock	<u>Fun Box</u> Outdoor Blanket Journal Books
<u>Day Trip Backpack</u> Water Filter Sun Hat OG Banana Boat Timelapse Device Headlamp Hacky Sack Shammy Towel	<u>Shoe Corner</u> Slides Sneakers Running Shoes Hiking Shoes	<u>Snack Box</u> All the Snacks, Sometimes overflowed to the Cooking Bin	<u>Yeti Cooler</u> Eggs Lunchmeat/Cheese Hummus Cream Cheese Other chilled items
<u>Dirty Clothes</u> Inside a garbage bag	<u>Clean Clothes</u> Inside Osprey Pack	<u>Gallons of Water</u> 5 - 1 Gallon Jugs	<u>Guitar/Ukulele</u> (No container for these)
<u>Coats</u> Sweatshirt Down Jacket Rain Jacket	<u>Plastic Bags Bag</u> Empty Grocery Bags Ziploc Bags	<u>Pillow</u> (No container for this)	<u>Paper Towel/Toilet Paper</u> (No container for these)

CAR SETUPS

Setup 1: Travelling Alone

Note: When I took these pictures, I had acquired a large red antique milk jug that took up a lot of room and wasn't necessary whatsoever.

TRUNK

Camping Box
Kitchen Box
Cooking Bin
Hygiene/Medicine Box
Shoe Corner
Coats
Sunscreen Bag
Slackline Bag
Day Trip Backpack
Plastic Bags
Paper Towel/Toilet Paper
Gallons of Water
Dirty Clothes



BACKSEAT

Clean Clothes
Yeti Cooler
Ukulele
Snack Box

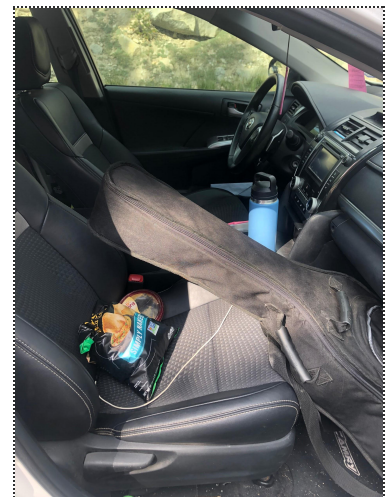
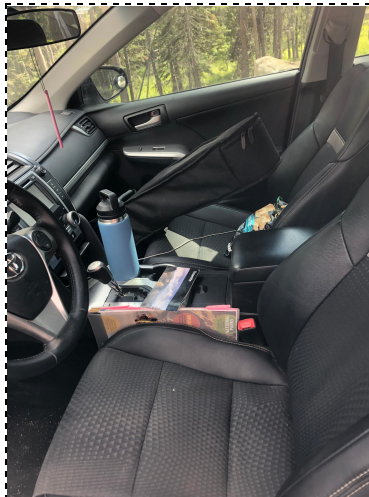
BACKSEAT FLOOR

Electronics Box
Fun Box
Gatorade
Pillow



FRONT SEAT

Guitar
Road Atlas



Setup 2: Travelling with David Pratter

TRUNK

Camping Box

Kitchen Box

Cooking Bin

Hygiene/Medicine Box

Shoe Corner

Coats

Sunscreen Bag

Slackline Bag

Day Trip Backpack

Plastic Bags

Paper Towel/Toilet Paper

Gallons of Water

Dirty Clothes

David's Dirty Clothes

Guitar

BACKSEAT

Clean Clothes

Yeti Cooler

Ukulele

David's Bag 1

David's Bag 2

Snack Box (On top of Yeti)

BACKSEAT FLOOR

Electronics Box

Fun Box

Gatorade

Pillow

FRONT SEAT

David!

Setup 3: Sleeping in the Car

When sleeping in a sedan, I think the best move is to fold the backseat down as far as it can go, having your head on the back of the seat and your feet and legs in the trunk. Doing this, I had to move most of what was in the trunk to the front two seats. I put the snack box and the kitchen box on top of the Yeti to provide a little bit of privacy. I also put the down jacket up against the back window as well as the foam roller.

TRUNK

Hygiene/Medicine Box
Shoe Corner
Coats
Sunscreen Bag
Slackline Bag
Plastic Bags
Paper Towel/Toilet Paper
Gallons of Water
Dirty Clothes



BACKSEAT

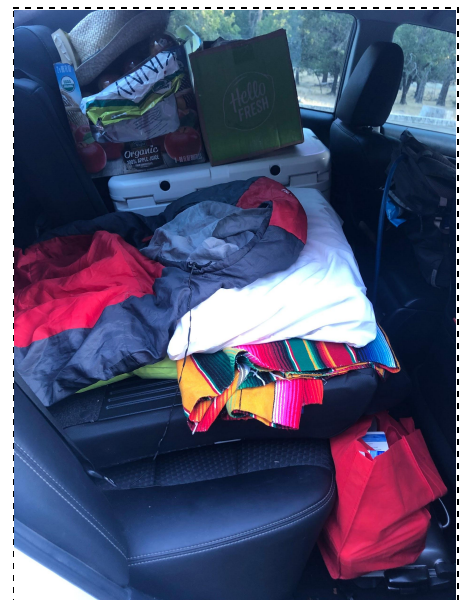
Yeti Cooler
Ukulele
Snack Box (On top of Yeti)
Kitchen Box (On top of Yeti)

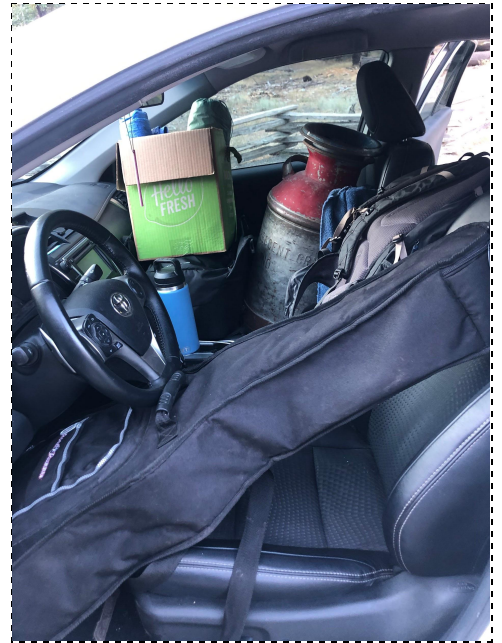
BACKSEAT FLOOR

Electronics Box
Fun Box
Gatorade
Pillow

FRONT SEAT

Camping Box
Day Trip Backpack
Cooking Bin
Guitar
Clean Clothes





HOW I LIVED

Finding Campsites

Shoutout to freecampsites.net (not sponsored). This is and was my go-to site for finding free campsites in the U.S. Many of the sites are reviewed, and some have comments updating the status of the site. For example, because of the coronavirus, some of the campsites were closed, and some places closed for other reasons years ago. It usually lets you know if four wheel drive is required, and it also lists some campsites that require a fee but are cheap. Camping along national forest roads is free unless it's stated otherwise. Some national forests have signs posted along the road saying no camping, and all of the official national forest campsites require a fee. I found several campsites just by driving until I found a pull-off with a fire ring off the side of the road. When I found myself in a city, I would find some street that didn't have no-parking signs or signs indicating I would be towed, and I would sleep in my car.

Camp Set Up

First, I would lay down the tarp, then set up the tent over it. Not always necessary, but in some of the drier, rockier areas I camped it likely saved my tent from a small hole or two. In the tent I would have my sleeping pad, sleeping bag, blanket and pillow for sleeping, and usually I'd have warm clothes in there too in case it got cold at night. If I was in bear territory I would have my bear spray holstered in one of the tent's pockets, and regardless I would always have my phone and keys with me as well.

Cooking

I tried out different options for where to cook. Most campsites were just a lot of dirt, not always flat, so if I cooked on the ground, I would lay down the outdoor blanket and set everything on top of that. This worked out fine, but sitting on the ground isn't always the most comfortable, especially after a long day of hiking, and the blanket would get pretty dirty. The other method I tried was setting up everything on top of the closed trunk. This would work out fine, until I realized I forgot something I needed in the trunk and had to set everything on the ground, get what I needed, and move it all back. I ended up cooking in the following way. I would sit in the front passenger seat and set up the jetboil on the center console, and I would have other things I needed at my feet. This worked out well, and I would crack a window or have the doors opened for airflow while I cooked. This way, I was in a comfortable seat, and when I inevitably forgot something in the trunk, I could easily get up and go get it.

Showering/Bathing

There's nothing like washing off in an icy rushing river. I only took showers when with friends and family, so when I was without the comforts of civilization I would take advantage of the cold, clean flowing water of rivers. I used Dr. Bronner's soap, which is biodegradable, and I would use my shammy towel to scrub and soak up water so I didn't have to have my full body in the water. Some of the rivers were so cold my feet would go numb and it was only bearable when the sun was shining, providing extra warmth.

When I was in a private area, I would get in my birthday suit like the filthy animal I was, and when I was around people I'd go in my speedo.

Washing Clothes

When I wasn't staying with friends or family, I would go to a laundromat in a city. My clothes lasted about two weeks, and washing clothes usually cost about \$6. Waiting for laundry gave me time to plan my next move or get some reading/journaling done!

Refilling Water

This was one of the things that was on my mind the most. Where can I fill up gallon jugs of water for free? I tried walking into a gas station and going to the fountain drinks to get water there, but I felt weird not paying for anything, so I looked for other options. Most national parks have water filling stations that are better than drinking fountains for filling gallon jugs, so that ended up being the most common source for water. Some national forest recreational areas have water filling stations as well, and rest stops and city parks are a good resource for water fountains that may or may not be good for filling those big ol' jugs. I would also refill water when I stayed with friends and family! At the start of the trip I only had two gallon jugs plus the 2.5 L in my camelbak, but later on I ended up getting three more gallons, which would last me about 4 days (a little more than one gallon a day depending on how much I hiked and if I cooked once or twice).

Dealing with the Heat

The hottest place I camped was at the south entrance of Joshua Tree National Park. During the day it got to around 112 degrees Fahrenheit. The temperature would stay in the upper 90s until about midnight, and would fall to the upper 80s and low 90s just before sunrise. I slept in my underwear without the rain tarp on my tent to get the most breeze possible. There's really not much you can do other than be hot, sweaty, and sticky all night long. It's hard to get good sleep.

Dealing with the Cold

The coldest place I camped was near Twin Lakes, CO in the mountains. During the day it was a wonderful mid to upper 80s, but in the deep of night it got down into the low 30s. Despite the sleeping bag being rated to 32 degrees Fahrenheit, I was so cold at night that I couldn't sleep. Later on I learned how to deal with the cold better. I would put on socks, pajama pants, long sleeve under armour, T-shirt, sweatshirt, and beanie. This outfit in the sleeping bag would be comfortable down to the mid 40s, but what saved me several nights was wrapping myself in a blanket inside the sleeping bag to insule myself more. I would also throw on my down jacket as well when it was cold enough. With this setup, I slept pretty comfortably, but my face and neck would still be cold, so that's why I think getting a neck gaiter would be a good investment.

Dealing with Bears!

Disclaimer: This is what I did to avoid bears, but may not always result in staying clear of bears. Do your own research on what to do when in bear country.

Going into the trip, I had no idea what the proper procedure looked like for avoiding bears while hiking and camping. Along the way I was told to store all food in a bear proof container or put everything in the trunk of the car. Then I learned that bears are also attracted to things with strong odors in general like soap, toothpaste, and sunscreen, which made camping a bit more of an ordeal. And *then* I learned that they can smell water, so you shouldn't even have water outside the car or with you in your tent. I accepted this as the cost of visiting wild country, and putting everything in the trunk of my car resulted in no bears coming in the night to rip off my car doors to get inside. Another important piece of advice is to make sure your hands are clean of food when going to bed, and to carry bear spray in case things go wrong. Later on in the trip I ended up leaving food in the backseat of my car, and still no bears ever showed up to my campsites. It was also suggested to have the car parked far away from the tent, but several nights I camped right next to my car and thankfully no bears arrived. May luck be on your side.

When hiking, generally what I saw posted at trailheads is to make noise throughout the hike to alert them of your presence (bad things happen when they are surprised), carry bear spray, and avoid hiking alone (Ha!). If you encounter a black bear at close distance, wave your arms slowly to appear large, slowly back away facing the bear (do not run), and avoid making eye contact. If you encounter a grizzly bear at close distance, hope that it doesn't decide to murder you.

LOCATIONS

Everywhere I went was either recommended to me by someone, or I chose to visit by looking at my road atlas or finding a free campsite. For example, I would see a large area of national forest on the atlas, find a campsite there, and try to check out a hike nearby once I got there. One of the best parts of the trip was meeting people on hikes and getting their recommendations on what to do and where to go! These are just the overarching places, but later on I go through individual hikes and campsites. The states are in the order that I visited. I easily could have made it alphabetical, but I didn't.

I also made a custom map of all the places I went. I tried to get as close as possible to the exact locations, so if you zoom in far enough it should be very accurate. For example most of the campsites show the exact place I camped. There's different layers for the various activities and places not listed in this document that can be toggled on and off. [Link](#) to map of the trip.

TEXAS
Austin
College Station
Houston
Galveston
Guadalupe National Park
Big Spring
Dallas
ALABAMA
Talladega National Forest
TENNESSEE
Chattanooga
Jefferson City
Knoxville
Great Smoky Mountains
NORTH CAROLINA
Asheville

Lake Junaluska
MISSOURI
Lake Ozark
WYOMING
Vedauwoo
Grand Teton National Park
Yellowstone National Park
MONTANA
Glacier National Park
Lolo National Forest
IDAHO
Twin Falls
Craters of the Moon
BLM Land Outside Carey
Ketchum/Sun Valley
OREGON
Portland
Willamette National Forest
Crater Lake National Park
WASHINGTON
Vancouver
Mount Rainier National Park
Gifford-Pinchot National Forest
Olympic National Park
UTAH
Moab

Arches National Park
Canyonlands National Park
Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
COLORADO
Eagle
Leadville
Breckenridge
Silverthorne
Rocky Mountain National Park
NEVADA
Wells
Fallon
Reno
Lake Tahoe
CALIFORNIA
Bridgeport
Yosemite National Park
Big Sur
Los Angeles
Joshua Tree National Park
ARIZONA
Tucson
NEW MEXICO
Gila National Forest
White Sands National Monument
Carlsbad

CONSOLIDATED LIST OF HIKES

All the hikes I did that were long enough to be noteworthy or short but on established trails. I used Alltrails to save all the hikes, and I have each trail listed with its Alltrails link. The distances I put down were the approximate distance I hiked, but don't always match the distance on Alltrails. Some hikes are actually longer than stated on the website/app, and some hikes I did were a combination of two hikes. I went off of other users' reported distances or the actual distances marked at the trailhead.

Here's the link to the Alltrails list of hikes, where all the hikes are shown on an interactive map!

<https://www.alltrails.com/lists/west-2020--19?u=i\>

Symbol	Meaning
⚠	Be Cautious!
☀	Favorite Hikes (top 10)

Trail Name	Location	Distance (miles)	Elevation Gain (ft.)	Link
Mount Tallac ☀	Lake Tahoe, CA	9.2	3274	https://www.alltrails.com/trail/us/california/mt-tallac-trail?u=i
El Capitan via Yosemite Falls ☀	Yosemite National Park, CA	16+	4681	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/california/el-capitan-trail-historical
Ryan Mountain	Joshua Tree National Park, CA	3.0	1069	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/california/ryan-mountain-trail
Mount Oxford ☀	Leadville, CO	12.5	5734	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/colorado/mount-oxford
Mount Massive	Leadville, CO	14.0	4553	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/colorado/mount-massive-trail-via-south-east
Mount Quandary	Breckenridge, CO	7.5	3339	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/colorado/quandary-peak-trail
Azure Lake and Inkwell Lake Loop ⚠	Rocky Mountain National Park, CO	11.1	3211	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/colorado/azure-lake-and-inkwell-lake-loop

North Crater Trail	Craters of the Moon, ID	4.0	739	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/idaho/north-crater-trail
Bald Mountain ☀️	Ketchum, ID	11.0	3412	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/idaho/baldy-trail
Snyder Lake Trail	Glacier National Park, MT	8.8	2050	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/montana/snyder-lake-trail
Alkali Flat Trail	White Sands, NM	5.0	100+	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/new-mexico/alkali-flat-trail
Middlefork Hot Springs Trail	Gila National Forest, NM	1.4	95	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/new-mexico/middlefork-lightfeather-hot-springs-trail
Hunter Creek Trail	Reno, NV	6.4	1240	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/nevada/hunter-creek-trail-2
Cool Creek Trail to Devil's Peak	Portland, OR	6.6	3211	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/oregon/cool-creek-trail-to-devils-peak
Tamolitch Blue Pool ☀️	Willamette National Forest, OR	3.7	305	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/oregon/tamolitch-blue-pool-via-mckenzie-river-trail
Discovery Point Trail	Crater Lake National Park, OR	6.5	1000+	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/oregon/discovery-point-trail
Mount Leconte ☀️	Great Smoky Mountains National Park, TN	11.0	2929	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/tennessee/alum-cave-trail-to-mount-leconte
Guadalupe Peak ☀️	Guadalupe Mountains National Park, TX	8.8	2867	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/texas/guadalupe-peak-texas-highpoint-trail
Mill Creek Trail	Moab, UT	4.5	185	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/utah/mill-creek-trail-2
Devil's Garden Primitive Loop Trail ☀️	Arches National Park, UT	7.8	1131	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/utah/devils-garden-loop-trail-with-7-arches
Aztec Butte Trail	Canyonlands National Park, UT	1.7	262	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/utah/aztec-butte
Mount Timpanogos ☀️	Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, UT	15.0	4425	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/utah/mt-timpanogos-timoneke-trail

Snowgrass Flats and Goat Lake Loop Trail 	Gifford Pinchot National Forest, WA	5.0	1200	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/washington/snowgrass-flats-and-goat-lake-loop-trail
Cape Alava Trail	Olympic National Park, WA	6.9	580	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/washington/cape-alava-trail
Phelps Lake Overlook	Grand Teton National Park, WY	2.0	413	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/wyoming/phelps-lake-overlook
Delta Lake via Amphitheatre Lake Trail 	Grand Teton National Park, WY	12.4	3400	https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/wyoming/delta-lake-trail




Total Hikes: 26

Total Miles: 201.8

Total Elevation Gained: 55,405

CONSOLIDATED LIST OF CAMPSITES

Legend

Symbol	Meaning
	Campsite Not Listed on freecampsites.net
	Boondocking (no tent camping)
	Favorite Campsites (top 10)

These are all the free campsites I stayed at. I made it to all of these campsites in my Toyota Camry (low clearance two-wheel drive). Some roads were difficult to traverse, and some I wouldn't go on again. None of the campsites were bad, but some were definitely better than others. If a site doesn't have a star, it didn't make my top 10 favorites, but it's still a good spot. Some places were beautiful, but had horrible mosquitoes. Some sites I didn't end up at would have been better, but all the good campsites were taken when I stayed there.

Campsite Name	Location	Link
Talladega National Forest 	Heflin, AL	https://goo.gl/maps/DUBpEzaBoJ7Km9uB6
Buckeye Road 	Bridgeport, CA	https://freecampsites.net/#!6155&query=sitedetails
Saddlebag Lake Road 	Lee Vining, CA	https://freecampsites.net/#!212516&query=sitedetails
FS 5s09	Fish Camp, CA	https://freecampsites.net/#!167156&query=sitedetails
TV Tower Road 	Morro Bay, CA	https://freecampsites.net/#!152046&query=sitedetails
South Entrance of Joshua Tree	Chiriaco Summit, CA	https://freecampsites.net/#!505&query=sitedetails
Eagle BLM	Eagle, CO	https://freecampsites.net/#!116915&query=sitedetails
South Fork/Clear Creek 	Buena Vista, CO	https://freecampsites.net/#!51631&query=sitedetails
Blue River Dispersed	Silverthorne, CO	https://freecampsites.net/#!50944&query=sitedetails
Leadville on Halfmoon Creek 	Leadville, CO	https://freecampsites.net/#!17360

		8&query=sitedetails
Stillwater Pass Dispersed	Grand Lake, CO	https://freecampsites.net/#!51724&query=sitedetails
Wolf Flats	Ririe, ID	https://freecampsites.net/#!9543&query=sitedetails
BLM Craters of the Moon 📌	Carey, ID	https://goo.gl/maps/QUZaj414bfYwXXRM6
Lake Creek Road Dispersed ☀️	Ketchum, ID	https://freecampsites.net/#!164109&query=sitedetails
Saline Valley CA	Eldon, MO	https://freecampsites.net/#!58300&query=sitedetails
National Forest Road 3243 ☀️	Gardiner, MT	https://freecampsites.net/#!128057&query=sitedetails
Glacier Rim ☀️	Colombia Falls, MT	https://freecampsites.net/#!25364&query=sitedetails
Lolo 135-15 Clark Fork	Plains, MT	https://freecampsites.net/#!100304&query=sitedetails
Max Patch 📌	Hot Springs, NC	https://goo.gl/maps/guJYwecaG75PiN2Z6
Pine Flats 📌☀️	Silver City, NM	https://goo.gl/maps/3sBoVbJLCoFtXbEt7
Chosa Campground	White's City, NM	https://freecampsites.net/#!199189&query=sitedetails
Wildlife Crossing 🚗	Wells, NV	https://freecampsites.net/#!199032&query=sitedetails
Clear Lake Campsite	Government Camp, OR	https://freecampsites.net/#!137330&query=sitedetails
Free Public Parking 📌🚗	Gresham, OR	https://goo.gl/maps/CmzdPLYEYvgYC1mj6
Blue River Campsite ☀️	Lane County, OR	https://freecampsites.net/#!110651&query=sitedetails
Annie Creek Sno Park	Crater Lake, OR	https://freecampsites.net/#!64702&query=sitedetails
Comanche Trail Park	Big Springs, TX	https://freecampsites.net/#!227159&query=sitedetails
Willow Springs Road ☀️	Moab, UT	https://freecampsites.net/#!10671

		&query=sitedetails
Salamander Flats Campground (Free with National Park Pass)	Provo, UT	https://freecampsites.net/#!178019&query=sitedetails
Delle Track	Delle, UT	https://freecampsites.net/#!178630&query=sitedetails
Packwood NF	Packwood, WA	https://freecampsites.net/#!198263&query=sitedetails
Mt. Rainier NF 44 	Just Outside Mt. Rainier National Park South Entrance, WA	https://goo.gl/maps/CWZm4B2xrAEfoyDW9
Road A	Forks, WA	https://freecampsites.net/#!177794&query=sitedetails
Spread Creek Meadows	Jackson, WY	https://freecampsites.net/#!178622&query=sitedetails
Shadow Mountain	Jackson, WY	https://freecampsites.net/#!555&query=sitedetails
Vedauwoo 	Beauford, WY	https://freecampsites.net/#!3096&query=sitedetails

COST BREAKDOWN

I broke my trip into 5 different sections to analyze cost. I did this because my cost of living differed based on where I was and who I was with. For example when I stayed with my family in Nevada for a week, the only expenses I had were gas and an oil change, which doesn't represent the normal cost of living when I'm alone in my car. The total cost can be interpreted in different ways because some things I didn't have to pay for, which if I did, would have made the trip all around more expensive. There's also things I included that weren't necessary to functioning, but I bought because I wanted to (like stickers and legal marijuana). I definitely could have just combined the cost of ice with groceries, but I didn't and I'm sticking with that decision even now. Driving over 15,000 miles made gas the most expensive part of the trip. My car gets around 32 miles per gallon, and gas was extremely cheap because of coronavirus. Most of the gas was around \$2.29 - \$2.79, with some places having it fall under \$2.00 a gallon. Even in California I was able to fill up for under \$3.00 a gallon. With that in mind, here's the cost breakdown.

Section 1: Start to David Pratter (May 25 - June 16)

I started the trip after having gone to Costco with my mom, who treated me to quite a lot of bulk snacks, and things like tuna that lasted me a good amount of time. I stayed with my sister in Houston and my aunt in Galveston, who cooked for me when I was with them. This time also included a lot of eating out in Tennessee and the first oil change of my car, which added a lot to the cost.

Section 1 Expenses Table

Gas	\$269.70 (11)
Groceries	\$54.93
Eating Out	\$125.83 (12)
Ice	\$16.67
Misc.	\$54.98 - Oil Change/Tire Rotation \$6.95 - Huckleberry Jam \$2.99 - Stickers (1) \$27.43 - Josh's Glass
Total	\$559.48

Section 2: David Pratter (June 16 - July 2)

For about two weeks I travelled with David, and he was kind enough to split the cost of gas while we were together. We also split groceries and other things like ice and bear spray. I lost my spork, so I had to replace it, and I also had to stock up on propane for the Jetboil. I forgot to write down the cost of the laundry, so I'll put in an estimate.

Section 2 Expenses Table

Gas	\$135.36 (\$270.71) (10)
Groceries	\$94.52 (\$189.03)
Eating Out	\$34.25 (2)
Ice	\$5.19 (10.38) (2)
Misc.	\$27.48 (54.95) - Bear Spray \$14.00 - Beanie \$13.81 - Edibles \$10.00 (20.00) - Laundry (2) \$9.99 - Stickers (3) \$8.95 - Spork \$5.95 - Jetboil Fuel \$2.94 - Reign Energy
Total	\$362.44

Section 3: Solo 1 (July 3 - July 17)

Note: My parents took me out to eat for three meals (We happened to be in Colorado at the same time). When I left the Silverthorne area, I was alone until I met my family in Nevada. I lost my giant, 90% full Dr. Bronner's bottle in Rocky Mountain National Park, so I had to replace it.

Section 3 Expenses Table

Gas	\$125.01 (5)
Groceries	\$185.19
Eating Out	\$11.27 (2)
Ice	\$5.22 (2)
Misc.	\$12.91 - Stickers (4) \$16.93 - Dr. Bronner's
Total	\$356.53

Section 4: Fallon, Nevada (July 17 - July 24)

When staying with my family they really took care of me. They cooked amazing meals every night, helped me wash my car, and I was able to wash my clothes! Thank you Wyatt for taking me to Costco!

Section 4 Expenses Table

Gas	\$27.65 (1)
Groceries	\$0
Eating Out	\$0
Ice	\$0
Misc.	\$64.40 - Oil Change
Total	\$92.05

Section 5: Solo 2 (July 24 - August 6)

Mostly alone again for the last leg of the trip. Darrell took me out to a nice dinner before our hike at Lake Tahoe, and when I stayed with my uncle in Tucson, he took me out to eat several times, which I really appreciated. I went to the store right before staying in Nevada, and so I still had a lot of food when I left because they cooked so much for me, so I only had to go to the store one more time. I also tried to end the trip without any leftover food, so the last three days I did a lot of snacking instead of eating nice meals.

Section 5 Expenses Table

Gas	\$212.92 (9)
Groceries	\$21.66
Eating Out	\$18.61
Ice	\$7.68 (3)
Misc.	\$137.26 - Legal Marijuana \$6.42 - Reign Energy (2) \$5.17 - Stickers (2) \$2.00 - Yosemite Reservation
Total	\$411.72

Overall Expenses Table

Gas	\$770.64
Groceries	\$356.30
Eating Out	\$189.96

Legal Marijuana	\$151.07
Car Maintenance	\$119.38
Gear (Acquired During Trip)	\$73.31
Gifts	\$41.43
Ice	\$34.76
Stickers	\$31.06
Other	\$21.36
Total	\$1789.27

I think that even if I didn't stay with family along the way, or get a lot of groceries paid for up front, or a handful of other things along the way that helped me out along the way, I think the cost would still have fallen around \$2000, which I think is pretty good for 73 days of travelling! My cost came out to be about \$24.50 per day.