

A DRYSUIT FOR EVERY OCCASION

Level Six Triton

Clean, stylish and tough

We loved the tough construction and clean lines of this suit, cut from Level Six's proprietary eXhaust 3.0 waterproof-breathable fabric, with Bi-Layer reinforcement in the seat, knees and arms. We liked the wide cuffs and zippered pockets—five altogether, including two at the hip plus a chesty with a bonus key compartment. The only feature missing is a sprayskirt tunnel—good riddance if you're an open canoeist, rafter, or standup paddlers. Whitewater kayakers may want to consider L6's excellent shoulder-entry Emperor suit (\$850, levelsix.com)

Bomber Gear Palguin

Light weight and hi-tech

Bomber Gear uses Polartec's ultra-light NeoShell fabric in the Palguin, new for 2015. The hi-tech material sheds water, breathes like a 250-pound marathoner, and has a distinctly lightweight hand. A unique leg entry (the zipper is in the suit's inseam) eliminates the need for a separate relief hatch and leaves the upper zipper-free. The design enhances the Palguin's free-and-easy feel, though it does make the suit less versatile on land. No tying the arms around your waist: This suit is either on or off. (\$1,000, bombergear.com)

Stohlquist Shift

Touring in comfort and style

The Shift is a touring suit you can live in, featuring a jacket-like layer that provides wind and rain protection with or without the neck gasket engaged. We liked the burly 3-Layer Rampart fabric, a waterproof-breathable material with a polyurethane membrane specially formulated for use in salt water. A removable hood, reinforced knees and seat, and integrated suspenders add to the expedition-ready feel. What's not to like? All these features add some weight and bulk. (\$950, stohlquist.com)

Mythic Sobek

The best you can buy (for \$250)

No proprietary space-age fabric, neoprene cuffs or reflective piping. Not even a sprayskirt tunnel. Just a chest zipper and set of gaskets secured to three-layer waterproof-breathable nylon. The Sobek has just one thing going for it that we love: a price tag approximately one used boat less than the going rate for fancier alternatives. A drysuit is an essential piece of safety gear, and we recommend you get the best one you can afford. If your budget is \$250, this suit is the best. (\$250, mythicdrysuits.com)

Kokatat Idol

The world's first two-piece drysuit

New for the 2015 season, the Idol is the first-ever two-piece drysuit. The prototype we tested has the familiar Kokatat quality, cut from waterproof-breathable Gore-Tex fabric with reinforced seat, knees and shoulders. We loved the versatility of this ensemble, which functions as an expedition-ready drysuit or a simple drytop. The breakthrough technology is a 360-degree waterproof waist zipper, and a zip-pull protected by a tiny drybox. (\$1,100, kokatat.com)

