Trip Planning Basics

Trail Logic Studio keeps planning simple so you can stay focused on the trail. Use this quick primer to build a confident day or weekend plan without overthinking it.

Choose Your Objective

" Match distance to daylight and fitness. Aim for 2 miles/hour on mixed terrain.
" Prioritize one highlight: summit view, waterfall, or quiet forest loop.
" Set a clear turnaround time and stick to it if weather or pace slips.

Check Conditions and Timing

" Look at the 12 24 hour forecast, then the hourly breakdown for wind, temps, and precipitation.
" Read the latest trip reports for snow, blowdowns, and water crossings.
" Build a simple time plan:
   " Approach: 40% of total time
   " Main objective: 20%
   " Exit: 30%
   " Buffer: 10% for photos, snacks, and surprises

Map the Route

" Save the route offline on two apps or devices.
" Mark these waypoints: trailhead, water sources, bail-out routes, turnaround time, and parking pin.
" Print a small map strip with key bearings for pocket navigation.

Pack the Essentials

Category | Pack It | Why

Navigation | Map, compass, charged phone | Redundancy beats dead batteries
Safety | First aid kit, headlamp, whistle | Handle twists after dark
Comfort | Layers, hat, sun protection | Temperature swings are real
Fuel | 250 300 calories/hour, 0.5 0.7L water/hour | Keep the engine steady

Share and Review

" Share plan, route link, and ETA with a trusted contact.
" Leave a note on your dashboard with trailhead, route, and return time.
" Quick pre-drive check:
      Weather re-checked

Map saved offline twice
Hydration filled and labeled
Headlamp batteries confirmed