Ideas dump

Common Hiking App Features and Tools

Hiking apps typically include features to help optimize a user's experience and keep them safe, according to Fontana.

- **GPS tracking** monitors a hiker's route, distance and elevation gain.
- **Detailed maps** provide trail navigation with a compass and built-in GPS capabilities.
- **Trail information** helps hikers choose the right hike based on difficulty level, distance and elevation profile.
- **Safety features** enable users to send messages and SOS alerts in no-call zones by syncing with satellite communication devices.
- **Weather updates** and forecasts provide real-time weather alerts.
- **Points of interest** inform users of nearby landmarks, scenic viewpoints, campsites, bathrooms, water sources and other amenities.
- **Community and social features** enable hikers to share routes, photos, reviews and experiences and to connect with other hikers
- **Offline access** allows users to download maps, trail information and other essential features without cellular service.
- **Route exporting** enables users to download a route into a file and to upload it into other apps or devices.

What Experts Say About Hiking Apps

When selecting a hiking app, Andrew Kuttow, a hiking and RV travel blogger at RV Camp Gear, recommends looking for the following features:

- **Offline functionality** for hiking in areas without network coverage.
- **User-friendliness** with an intuitive interface that's easy to navigate.
- **Regular updates** to ensure hikers have the most recent trail information and app features.
- **Detailed trail data**, including length, difficulty, elevation changes, landmarks, user reviews and photos.
- **GPS and navigation tools** to prevent you from getting lost.

Features we would want

- Duration/length of hike

- Difficulty of hike

- Location of hike from the user

- Person to do with

- How crowded/popular the hike is

- If there's water or bathrooms

- Shade /forecast

- When is best to go

- What to bring/what to wear

- Elevation

- Offline access to map and trail information