



# Field notes

NEW GADGET

## You've got the power

Never run out of power again with the PowerTrek, the world's first portable water charger. The PowerTrek uses fuel cell technology to convert hydrogen into electricity using as little as a teaspoon of water. Phones, laptops or GPS systems can be charged via the USB port on the device and the only by-product is water vapour. The system is more reliable than traditional solar powered portable chargers as it isn't reliant on the weather. The PowerTrek retails for €199 (about A\$240) and the PowerPukks that facilitate the charging are three euro (about A\$3.60) each. It's not on sale in Australia yet but should be available soon. [powertrek.com.au](http://powertrek.com.au)



VOLUNTOURISM

## Pay it forward

Do you ever feel guilty about travelling in absolute luxury in the poorest of countries? Hands Up Holidays gives you the chance to contribute to local communities through its voluntourism programs. On a 14-day tour through Zambia you can take a walking safari by the Luangwa River, fly over Victoria Falls in a helicopter and raft down the Zambezi River. But you can also help teach children in a local school, assist in a medical clinic or work on a building project depending on your skill set. Each itinerary is bespoke with accommodation at the best properties in the area and activities tailored to your fitness level. Tours are available in over 30 countries around the world. Visit [handsupholidays.com](http://handsupholidays.com)



NEW ECO LUXE

## Pikaia Lodge to open in Galapagos Islands

Pikaia Lodge will open on Santa Cruz island in 2013. It will be the only carbon neutral property in the Galapagos and one of the most advanced eco lodges in the world. Constructed using sustainable materials throughout and recyclable materials where possible, Pikaia Lodge will operate in accordance with the highest specifications of the LEED Certification program (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) from the US Green Building Council and is Ecuador's only member of the prestigious EcoLuxury Retreats. The 12 rooms and two suites are fitted with air conditioning, LED televisions and iPod systems (all of which are of the

highest eco-friendly rating), are bathed in natural light and have views of the Galapagos National Park and the Pacific Ocean. During the day, guests are invited to take part in a number of activities that showcase the spectacular surroundings including the unique wildlife. Pikaia Lodge is also involved with the local population, funding education programs, drawing upon local resources, hiring local staff where possible and inviting local students to participate in ecology or scientific presentations by the scientific resident or guides. [pikaialodgegalapagos.com](http://pikaialodgegalapagos.com) *Ecotourism will be a key topic at the International Luxury Travel Market: Americas, held in Mexico from 1-3 October.*



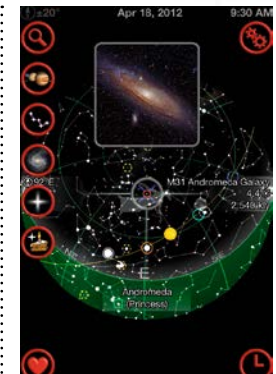
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GADGETS

## Appy trails

THANKS TO TODAY'S SMART PHONES AND TABLETS, OLD SCHOOL MAPS, COMPASSES, TRAVEL GUIDES AND MORE CAN NOW BE ACCESSED WITH A CLICK OF A BUTTON.

**PRUDENCE MCKENDRY** SHORTLISTS THE BEST APPS FOR THE EXPERIENCE TRAVELLER.



**GoSkyWatch Planerarium:** Take advantage of clear skies with this handy app that acts as a personal guide to whatever celestial body it is pointed at. The high performance animation, touch free identification and interactive features make this app easy to use for even novice stargazers. Compatible with: iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch. **A\$4.49**



**Wiki Camps Australia:** This app's not just about camping, it's a treasure trove of user generated content. The constantly growing database allows travellers to share tips and find recommended places nearby including the best fishing, four-wheel driving and Wi-Fi hot spots. The compass, satellite dish pointer and checklist features will definitely come in handy too. Compatible with: iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch, Android Phones, Android Tablets. **A\$2.99**



**MotionX GPS:** Avoid getting lost in the woods with this handy map app. Detailed topographical maps can be downloaded ahead of time to avoid poor 3G coverage when off the beaten track. This app allows you to remember and share past tracks by internally recording up to 100 tracks, marking personal waypoints and direct sharing to Facebook and Twitter. Added features include internal Wikipedia app and compass. Compatible with: iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch. **A\$0.99**

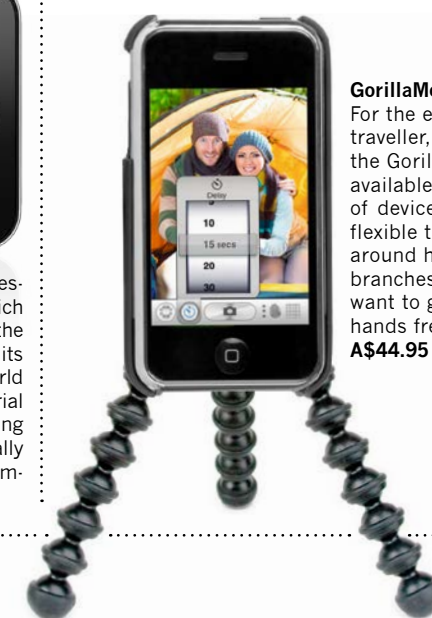


**Gorilla Cam:** There are countless camera apps on the market but many lack a few of the useful tricks that this one has up its sleeve. Practical features include digital zoom, anti-shake, tap to focus, selectable image size, self-time, time-lapse, continuous rapid fire, auto-save, press anywhere shutter button and grid-overlay. Compatible with: iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch. **Free**



**EveryTrail Pro:** Learn, track, explore and share your holidays with friends via EveryTrail's app. The interactive map allows users to plot pictures and videos throughout their travels, ready to share via Facebook, Twitter, Youtube and everytrail.com. With over 400,000 trips already planned as well as inbuilt audio guides there is plenty of inspiration at hand for your next holiday. Compatible with: iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch, Android Phones, Android Tablets. **A\$4.49**

**Peaks:** If mountaineering is your thing, this app is a necessity. Enjoy the view and avoid the inevitable question "Which mountain is that?" Simply point the camera phone at the landscape and wait for this app to pull the answer from its inventory of virtually every major and minor peak in the world without an internet connection. It also has a handy aerial map view tailored specifically to point out all surrounding peaks as well as a direct link to Twitter, which automatically names where you are and adds a link to Google Maps. Compatible with: iPhone, iPod Touch. **A\$2.99**



**GorillaMobile stand:** For the experience traveller, a must buy is the GorillaMobile stand, available for a range of devices. This nifty flexible tripod wraps around handlebars, tree branches or whatever you want to get the perfect hands free snap. **A\$44.95**