

Travel Blog 

A collage of various consumer products including a stroller, a Nintendo Switch, a hand holding a tablet, a jacket, a camera, a bag, a camera lens, a tablet with a keyboard, and a hand holding a smartphone.

Runner-up: The new [MiFi Librate](#), currently available exclusively on AT&T (for \$200 before contract), is the first mobile hotspot with an interactive touchscreen. It offers 4G LTE speeds, can webify up to 10 users, and sports an SD card slot for easy inter-device file and media sharing.

Have feedback or suggestions? View the [blog contact information](#).

* Some taxes, fees additional

3. Best Case Scenarios

Favorite: As we wrote a few months ago, the protective and memory-infused [Ego USB Hybrid Case](#) is available for both [iPhone 4/4S](#) and the [Samsung Galaxy SIII](#). But now, this dual-utility case series is also offered for the [iPhone 5](#). Additionally, Ego has updated their site. The bad news: The links from our original story are dead ends. The good news: These links above work fine, and this version of the site is easier to use, especially when buying one (or more) of these cases.

Runner-up: The [Lifeproof nüüd](#) shirks shocks, snow, dirt, and water, as it gives total access to all the tablet's buttons and functionality. However, it does so without a separate screen protector! So even though it's fully sealed, you can still touch, pinch and zoom right on your iPad's actual display.

4. Power to the People

Favorite: It's hard to beat the concept of a bag that not only holds your devices, but charges them as you go. Well, in addition to the slick rolling office bag [we wrote about](#) earlier this year, **Powerbag** also offers a [Business Class Pack](#). It doesn't have wheels, but will have you rolling through security, with a flat-folding, checkpoint-friendly design. As you're juicing your camera, phone, and tablet, why take out your up-to-15-inch laptop if you don't have to?

Runners-up: [Satechi Portable Energy Station](#) offers the highest capacity battery we've seen in a relatively small package. It's a little thinner and longer than a smartphone, but can recharge a phone five or six times over. By comparison, the sturdy, light and powerful new [Gomadic SunVolt](#) doesn't employ a battery. It just uses the sun to power up multiple devices at similar speeds to a wall charger.

5. Travel Tech Couture

Favorite: The folks at ScottEVest really outstripped themselves with the release of their [Fleece 7.0](#). Among its best features are removable sleeves (and a secret compartment to store them); a patent-pending plastic-covered inside pocket that allows you to see and touch your phone's screen and give it voice commands; and a dedicated iPad pocket that can vanish the tablet into thin air. A host of other features include relentless attention to design detail, nice materials, and tons of use-minded pockets.

Runner-up: [Modpod clogs](#) are a fun blend of funky and practical. Their knobby outsoles look kind of like a series of rocket thrusters. Yet they're easy to slip on and off through security. And the soft, stretchy fabric uppers have plenty of give, a godsend considering the inevitability of in-flight foot swelling.

6. Device Accessories

Favorite: Without question, [TouchFire](#) is the smallest, thinnest, and lightest physical travel keyboard out there. Better yet, it doesn't require any power. It just lays over the iPad's on-screen keyboard and allows you to touch-type. It's designed well, works well, and elegantly solves a problem causes (relative) suffering among the masses.

Runner-up: Since we wrote about the Breffo Spiderpodium [in April](#), this handy accessory has an [updated link](#) to its site, but is basically still the same simple yet effective, super-bendy stand. No batteries, no buttons—it just does what it does well.

7. To Your Health

Favorite: For folks who want to measure their luggage or themselves as they travel, the [Portable Body Scale](#) is the only (ahem) *weigh* to go. It's digital, easy to use, and can very quickly cure your curiosity. After all, the last thing you need is your extra baggage weighing heavily on your conscious.

Runner-up: Ideally, every day of every trip (and even at home), the [Philips Sonicare DiamondClean](#) proves its mettle. What's ironic about

this toothbrush that's rechargeable several different ways is that even with daily cleanings, it can go two or three weeks between charges. So you may not even need to pack a charger after all!

8. Audio On the Go

Favorite: Soon after our [compact speaker piece](#) ran back in March, the cute little **Mighty Dwarf** resonance speaker got even mightier. The [Blueell](#)—a Bluetooth version that's a little bigger and twice as powerful as its tiny cylindrical predecessor—sends impressive bass into whatever surface it's on and releases the higher tones upward into the air, for a great blended sound wherever you go.

Runner-up: Cool, clear, compact, and classy, the [B&W P3 headphones](#) are especially great for acoustic, classical, and live music. But they're definitely deft at producing dulcet tones in any genre.

9. Imaging Accessories

Favorite: After all the time you took to shop around for just the right lens, it makes sense that you'd want to protect it with the [Aquapac SLR camera case](#). After all, why should you be restricted about where you take pictures? So go ahead and take that big, bulky, background de-focusing rig of yours aboard boats, into the rain, and under waterfalls.

Runner-up: Two big changes to the 360-degree video shooting [Kogeto Dot](#) accessory are that it works with iPhone 5, and now you can use your phone's volume rocker to start and stop recording. (Our big complaint used to be having to finagle a screen tap while gingerly holding the device level to the ground.)

10. All in the Family

Favorite: Technology that makes travel easier for anyone is good. But when it's parents who benefit, it's simply fabulous! With that in mind, the [4moms Breeze](#) is indispensable. With the touch of a button it folds down. The twist of a wrist pops it back up. If only they could come up with similar technology that could just as quickly putting wired kids to sleep...

Runner-up: We're still impressed at how fun and educational the [Tropisounds Emma](#) digital book-puzzle is. Not to mention the way that it works travel and technology into the story.

Award-winning Fodor's.com Travel Technology Columnist Scott Tharler is an expert in gadgets, gambling, and travel. He's written four books, hundreds of mobile and wireless tips, and dozens of freelance articles. In addition to his [Discovery News](#) gadget blog contributions, you can find links to other gadget articles, social feeds and lists of his current favorite gadgets at [about.me/gadgetfans](#).

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