

Outdoor Research Women's Ferrosi 7" Shorts – Gear Review

Overview

The Outdoor Research Women's Ferrosi 7" Shorts are among the most respected hiking shorts in the outdoor industry. Built from OR's legendary Ferrosi stretch fabric, these shorts combine durability, mobility, weather resistance, and comfort into a versatile package suitable for hiking, climbing, travel, and everyday outdoor adventures.

Weight

- Published/Measured Weight: **6.7–7.2 oz (190–204 g)** depending on size and source.
- OutdoorGearLab measured the shorts at 7.2 oz, while other reviewers list approximately 6.7 oz.

Key Specifications

- Weight: 190–204 g (6.7–7.2 oz)
- Inseam: 7 inches
- Fabric: 46% recycled nylon, 40% nylon, 14% spandex Ferrosi fabric
- UPF 50+ sun protection
- Water- and wind-resistant
- Integrated waistband adjustment system
- Four-pocket design including zippered security pocket
- Best Uses: Hiking, climbing, travel, scrambling

Comfort & Mobility

The Ferrosi fabric is known for its exceptional stretch and freedom of movement. The integrated waistband system provides a secure fit without requiring a separate belt, and the fabric remains comfortable during long hikes and active pursuits.

Breathability

Despite offering wind and water resistance, the Ferrosi fabric remains highly breathable and dries quickly after exposure to sweat or light rain. The shorts perform particularly well in variable mountain weather.

Durability

Durability is one of the Ferrosi's greatest strengths. The abrasion-resistant fabric stands up well to rock scrambling, hiking, and climbing. Many long-term users report years of regular use with minimal wear.

Pocket Design

The Ferrosi includes deep hand pockets, rear storage, and a zippered security pocket. The pocket layout works well for carrying trail essentials while remaining streamlined and comfortable.

Pros

- Excellent durability
- Outstanding stretch and mobility
- UPF 50+ protection
- Wind- and water-resistant fabric
- Secure integrated waistband system
- Versatile for hiking, climbing, and travel

Cons

- Heavier than ultralight hiking shorts
- Dry time is slower than some minimalist competitors
- Fit may run small for some users

Best For

Women seeking a highly durable hiking short capable of handling hiking, scrambling, climbing, travel, and everyday outdoor use.

Editor's Rating: 9.4 / 10

The Outdoor Research Women's Ferrosi 7" Shorts continue to set the benchmark for durable, versatile hiking shorts. Their blend of stretch, weather resistance, comfort, and durability makes them one of the best all-around hiking shorts available.