

UPLAND FIELD VEST

FROM KUIU | Review by Troy Basso

The new KUIU Upland Field Vest is quickly becoming a staff favorite. If you're an upland hunter, numerous features of this vest should pique your interest. It's made from premium materials, and the fit is both true-to-size and exceptionally comfortable, even when loaded up with birds.

They've put real work into the weight distribution system, which includes a central stay to maximize stability while minimizing the need for multi-point adjustments. In addition, there's a generously sized hydration-compatible backpack attached to the outside of the bird box, which itself is expandable and fully integrated with the suspension system.

Although the design isn't explicitly modular, we appreciated the fact that one can hang or mount a pouch on the sides, perfect for a GPS or dog control unit. The shoulder straps are void of extraneous gadgets – no loops or D-rings or excess padding – which makes shouldering a shotgun very easy and, most importantly, very consistent.

Finally, the ability to carry a considerable amount of water is critical for dog owners, especially those who hunt the early seasons in the southeast and arid west.



For extra credit, the expandable bird bag (made from top-notch abrasion resistant materials which can be easily washed down) can also be used to carry an injured dog out of the field. On the flip side, the water bottles which come with the vest could be better quality. Fortunately, the water bottle holsters are standard sizes, and it's easy enough to replace them with a better after-market bottle.

- Weight: 3lb 11.5oz (1,687g)
- Sizes: Medium / Large and XL / XXL
- Backpack Volume: 600in³ (10L)
- Game Pouch (expanded) 15.7 x 8.8 x 8.3in (40 x 22 x 21cm)
- Hydration Volume: 3L (not included)

MSRP: US\$249

Website: www.kuiu.com