

# RUNNER'S WORLD

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Running Shoes & Gear:

## Specialty Running Store Runner's Choice Awards 2008

You voted on your favorite local running stores, and the results are in.



Specialty retail stores across the country battled it out once again for bragging rights in the 2008 Runner's World Runner's Choice Awards.

Earlier this year, more than 3,350 runners nationwide voted for their favorite independent running store that demonstrates an ongoing commitment to your local running community. From mobile shoe fitting to runner's radio shows and race sponsorships, these independent running shops have gone the extra mile to provide the latest gear, advice, and training tools, road tested by an experienced staff of real runners just like you.

These ten outstanding retailers, and their runner-ups, were chosen by popular vote as the best in their region.

The Runner's Choice awards are kicked off every year with a retailer listing in our March issue. The [list also lives year-round on our web site](#).

### Best in California

Sage to Summit

148 Willow Street

Bishop, CA

(760) 872-1756

[www.sagetosummit.com](http://www.sagetosummit.com)

Located in the small-but-feisty town of Bishop, California with a population of only 3,500, repeat winner Sage to Summit is seemingly always reaching for the sky—in both the figurative and literal sense.

"One of the new brainstorm we had," says co-owner Karen Schwartz, "is mountain running adventure trips. Howie (Karen's co-owner husband) is a certified mountain guide and it just seems like a great opportunity." These planned running excursions—in both the nearby Sierra Mountains and perhaps even the Alps—are exactly what one might expect from a guy whose favorite running wear is the Asics-gel Trail Attack shoe. In addition, the shop continues to serve everyone from the area's gnarly ultra-running community to the rookie jogger-turned-racer who might be hot to trot in a debut 5K. Added bonus? "We're pretty close to Mammoth, so occasionally one of the world-class Team U.S.A. runners might turn up in our shop," says Schwartz. Now, how cool is that?

#2. See Jane Run — San Francisco, CA

#3. See Jane Run — Oakland, CA