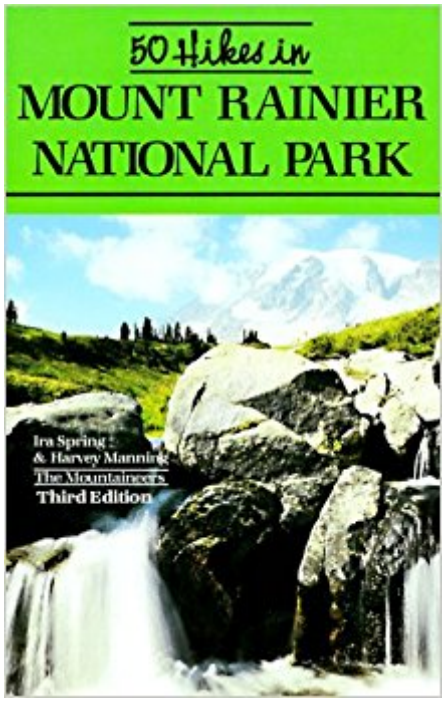
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50 Hikes In Mount Rainier National Park



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Synopsis

This new full-color edition commemorates Mount Rainier National Park’s 100th anniversary. From the short Paradise flower trails of Alta Vista and Nisqually Vista to the nine-mile grunt up to the summit base camp at Camp Muir to the epic 93-mile Wonderland Trail that encircles the mountain, this comprehensive guide will make hiking in Mount Ranier National Park a dream. 80 color photos, 57 color maps. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Paperback: 138 pages

Publisher: Mountaineers Books; 3rd edition (August 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0898861756

ISBN-13: 978-0898861754

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,140,839 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #19 inÃ Â Books > Travel > United States > Washington > Mount Rainier #27 inÃ Â Books > Travel > United States > Washington > General #963 inÃ Â Books > Travel > Food, Lodging & Transportation > Parks & Campgrounds

Customer Reviews

"For a good trail guide...that you can tuck in your daypack, turn once more to the team of Spring and Manning. -- Tacoma News Tribune --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Ira Spring and Harvey Manning are the godfathers of Pacific Northwest hiking guidebooks with more than thirty titles to their credit. They are known with great affection as "the grumpy old men" for their untiring efforts to conserve all that is naturally beautiful in the Pacific Northwest. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A friend of mine has this book and uses to keep track of all of the hikes she’s done by writing the dates on the specific page.

50 Hikes in Mount Rainier National Park is one of those books that will go in my pack on every trip to the mountain. It’s always been the complete guide to Mt. Rainier hiking but now with the 4th edition, it’s in color with new photos as well. I’d buy it for the new updated Wonderland Trail section alone. In my opinion it’s probably the best of the many books on Mt. Rainier trails that are out there.

This book is one of my favorite books for hikes around Mt. Rainier! Any book with Ira Springs and her partner are well written, easy to navigate and have everything you need to know to go on one of the hikes in the book. I especially love this colored version, it really inspires me when I look for a new hike in the area.

good book.

Overall this book is well put together. The hikes are organized according to their location in the park so you can quickly find hikes that are close the entrace you are using. The descriptions of each hike are clear and and easy to follow and include a small map of the hike with the description. Each hike is accompanied by color photos which really set this book apart. This is a worthwhile purchase, but it has a couple of downsides:- None of the trails are rated. I really enjoy guides that rate each hike and define their rating system (such as the "Don’t Waste Your Time" series) so I can quickly determine what the authors really thought of the hike. When I picked up this book to quickly find a hike to do the next morning I had a hard time figuring out which hikes would be most worthwhile. I ended up picking one close to the entrace I was using since that is how the book is organized.- The maps included with each hike could be more detailed. Having the maps is nice but they aren’t very helpful in pinpointing your location on a trail or knowing that the upcoming terrain is going to be like. A full topographical map would be ideal.- It would be nice if each hike had an area for writing notes.

The best thing you can say about this umpteenth edition of this guide is that it has some nice color pictures. Even then, though, they aren’t always accurate - like the picture of Ranger Falls, which really isn’t Ranger Falls, but a lower falls about a quarter-mile down the trail from the real Ranger Falls. Or the picture of the "Avalanche lily" on page 69, which is really a glacier lily. You’d think a pair of old veterans like Ira Spring and Harvey Manning would know things like that.That first photo is on the Green Lake hike, which the author tells you starts at elevation 985 feet. In fact, the elevation at the trailhead is about 2,100 feet. There are several mistakes like this throughout the book, which makes me wonder how carefully the book has been edited. After all, they’ve had four

tries.The maps aren't really maps at all, but confusing little sketches which show you very little about the trail you will be walking. There are no contour lines and pitifully few elevations given, and you've got to wade through paragraphs of boring, often preachy text to find out whether the trail is uphill or downhill on specific sections. Compare these useless cartoons to the clear, excellent topographic maps in Ron C. Judd's new "Day Hike! Mount Rainier," and see which you'd rather try to follow with a compass.Of all the guides to trails on Mount Rainier, this has got to be the worst.

The new color pics are great, but one has to wonder if Harvey, et al, are letting the details slip in their golden years. One whole section, for trails on the (washed out) West Side Road, tells you to get on the "shuttle bus" and be dropped off at the trailhead -- when in fact no such bus exists, and probably won't for years, according to park rangers. This minor inconvenience adds as much as 10 miles to some of those hikes -- and these distances are NOT spelled out in the guide. There also seeems to be sloppy editing; more than one altitude-gain stats are wrong, as in, 2,300 rather than 3,200. That's a big difference. Also, like other Mountaineers guides released recently, the authors in this one seem to be at war with their own publishers. Example: The route they suggest to Indian Henry's Hunting Grounds is no longer even maintained by the park, and another route is described on the next page as "safer." Why, then, include the old route? The authors might want to spend less time defending their old choices and more time making new ones. I'm frankly not interested in the best hikes in the park circa 1965. In sum: Worth having for the pics, but supplement it with something else for trail data.

This book is great. It gives detailed descriptions of the trail, detailed maps and great photos. Many hikes can be done in less than 6 hours. This guide has helped me decide on what trails to see on my trip to Seattle-Washington-Mount Rainier in Aug. of 2005.The authors of this book, Ira Spring and Harvey Manning, really show their respect for Mount Rainier, by calling it "The Mountain" and it always being capitalized.

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