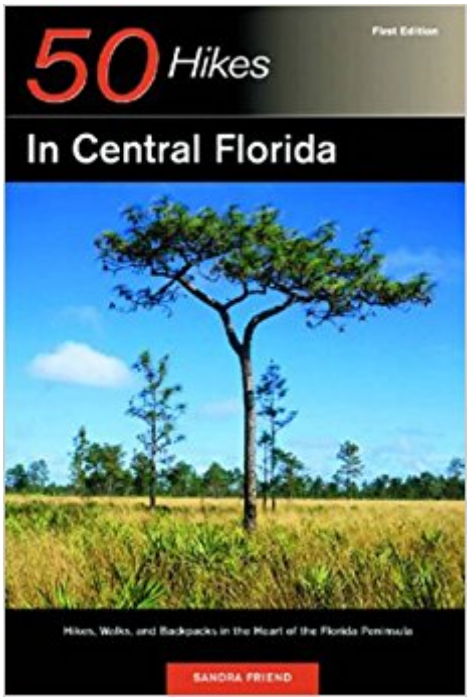
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50 Hikes In Central Florida: Hikes, Walks, And Backpacks In The Heart Of The Peninsula



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Synopsis

Florida’s landscape is a marvel of diversity, ranging from temperate Appalachian-style forests to tangled tropical jungles. The broad range of habitats and wildlife found there are surpassed only by Hawaii and California. Trails pass through desert-like scrub islands, jungle-like hydric hammocks, and deep, dark bayous. Footpaths range through salt marshes, river floodplains, and along coastal dunes and beaches. Florida has the world’s only Everglades, and the delightful landforms of karst--disappearing lakes and streams, yawning sinkholes lush with ferns, and the world’s largest concentration of first-magnitude springs. And more than 1,200 contiguous miles of the Florida National Scenic Trail stretch from the beaches of Pensacola, at the western edge of the Panhandle, to the Big Cypress Swamp in the Everglades. The 50 hikes in this new guide to the heart of the Florida peninsula range from one to 43 miles in length. Each hike description includes a topographic map, mile-by-mile directions, and information on distance, difficulty, time, and terrain.

Book Information

Series: Explorer’s Guides: 50 Hikes

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Customer Reviews

Sandra Friend is a freelance writer and photographer who has written for newspapers and magazines including Blue Ridge Country, Appalachian Trailway News, Florida Hiker, and Backpacker. She is an active volunteer with the Florida Trail Association, working with partners such as the Office of Greenways and Trails to increase public knowledge of hiking trails within Florida. She is also the author of Florida in the Civil War: A State in Turmoil. She lives in Orlando.

Interesting.

The book provides excellent descriptions of various trails as well as clear directions on how to find them. My husband and I are enjoying the discovery of trails we never knew existed in our backyard!

Yes, this is an older edition of the book. So if you want the newer one, click on the new edition and enjoy yourself. However, if you already have the newer edition, you may still want to buy this edition. Why? Because the author replaced some of the trails in this edition when she revised the book for the newer edition.So, if you've hiked all the trails in the newer edition and are looking for other trails in Central Florida, buying this edition will tell you about the following trails: (The number is the chapter number for the trail in this edition.)5 Panasoffkee Outlet7 Perry Oldenburg Mitigation Park9 Gator Creek Reserve10 Tenoroc Fish Management Area14 Ocklawaha Prarie Restoration Area15 Emeralda Marsh Conservation Area20 Blue Spring State Park21 Rock Springs Run State Reserve23 Sabal Point Sanctuary28 Reedy Creek Swamp30 Weekiwachee Preserve31 Jay B. Starkey Wilderness Park38 Boyd Hill Nature Park41 Buncombe Hill Interpretive Trail43 Puzzle Lake46 Pine Island Conservation Area48 Malabar Scrub Sanctuary49 Fort Drum Marsh Conservation AreaI just hiked Panasoffkee Outlet last weekend, and the trail was great and secluded.The other issue with the book is that it was published in 2002. Some of the trails may have changed since the book was published. (This is true of all trail books; they don't always age well.) Additionally, GPS units were far less prevalent when the book was published. This means that the maps may not be as accurate as the trail maps in newer books, and GPS coordinates for campsites and trail heads aren't provided.But if you're a Central Florida hiker and want some new (old) trails to hike, this book is recommended.

This is the older edition of this book (I didnt realize the newer edition came out until I started writing this review). It is an excellent resource for hiking in central florida. Really gives you a guide for the non-theme park florida that most people know nothing about. Good detail about each trail (location/parking, start points, interesting landmarks, some history of each trail if relevant, and a good description of lengths and challenges). I will probably purchase the newer edition just to see what changes she has made!

This is a hiking guide that has it all. Not only does it give clear directions on how to find the trails and precise information such as length and degree of difficulty, it includes lyrical narratives of the

beautiful and interesting sights you will see as you hike.For those who think of Central Florida as a land of theme parks and T-shirt shops, this book will open their eyes to the natural beauty that still exists, just minutes away from the tourist attractions.

This book is a terrific guide to the real Florida. The directions (both to the trailheads and on the trails) are easy to follow and accurate. The descriptions include interesting bits about flora, fauna, and geography as well as the occasional snippet of Florida history. It's an outstanding book for someone wondering how to get into the woods in central Florida; even those who hike central Florida regularly will find some new gems to explore. This is a great guidebook!

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