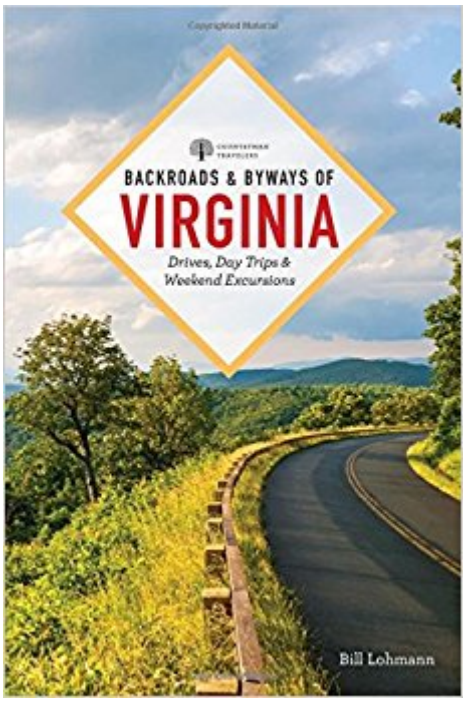
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# Backroads & Byways Of Virginia: Drives, Day Trips, And Weekend Excursions (2nd Edition) (Backroads & Byways)




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## Synopsis

With natives as your guides, Backroads & Byways leads you down the road less traveled Want to get to know Virginia, gateway to the South and a state steeped in history? In the revised and updated Backroads & Byways of Virginia, you'll find 19 itineraries for scenic drives, day trips, and longer adventures for the whole family. Follow the Crooked Road Heritage Music Trail; hit all the points in the historic triangle of Jamestown, Williamsburg, and Yorktown; and wend your way along the Blue Ridge Parkway through some of the loveliest scenery the region has to offer. Visit Mount Vernon, where George Washington really slept; witness the genius of Thomas Jefferson at Monticello. If youÃ¢â ¬â„¢re looking for great places to go beyond the DC suburbs and Virginia Beach, reach for this guide. Interstate highways will bring you through Virginia, but only the backroads will bring Virginia to you! 50 color photographs

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Bill Lohmann was born and raised in Virginia. He has been a sports writer, feature writer, and columnist, most recently for the Richmond Times-Dispatch. Lohmann and his family live in Richmond.

Byroads&Byways of Virginia; Drives, DayTrips, & Weekend Excursions by Bill Lohmann covers areas of Virginia that are outside the Washington D.C. area. However, as a side note, Northern Virginia magazine and Washingtonian magazine are both good for those who would like information

on areas such as Arlington Virginia, Arlington Virginia, Fairfax Virginia and other area of northern Virginia. Anyhow, this book covers some of the following content; Chapter 6 features getting to the area where Patrick Henry gave his Liberty or Death Speech via the Road to Revolution Trail, St. JohnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Church, Hanover County, Scotchtown, Ashland, Red, Hill, and the Blue Ridge Mountains. Chapter 11 Road to Appotomax-pg 130 mention of Hopewell Quick Launch, a brick diner that has been open since 1927 and known for the chili dogs. Chapter 15 covers places such as the Scottsville Museum and Canal Basin Square, the BlueMountain Brewery and Hops Farm. Obviously, there is more Virginia information within this book (such as Chapter 18 pertaining to the live music scene and shows at the Barter Theater in Abingdon, Carter Family Fold in Hiltons, Ralph Stanley Museum, and Traditional Music Center in Clintwood and more.

It would help to have a map for each segment with the sights and sites notated. Also each segment should be highlighted on the state map for orientation as to where one is. It isn't very useful for an "around me" search. It would be more useful for a planned from-home- to-somewhere kind of trip, not for finding interesting things along the way....because one may not know which county one is traveling through at the moment.

This book offers a charming, chatty look at visiting all sorts of places in Virginia. Unfortunately, the lack of organization undermines the book's usefulness as a guide to anything.The author proffers 19 driving trips of varying lengths and themes throughout the state. Themes include mountains/hiking, seashore, Colonial America, Civil War, and more. I have no quibbles with the trips he's outlined and the things he suggests to do on those trips, based on my visits to some of those sites.However, none of the 19 trips is accompanied by a map. This seriously undermines the benefits of the book for the typical traveler who is passing through an area on his or her way to somewhere else. Unless you know Virginia well already, seeing a title of a chapter (a trip) like "The Valley Pike," "Going Nowhere in Particular," or "Historic Triangle" isn't much help. With an index, maps, or some other organizing principle, this book would be much more valuable.

The subtitle is Drives, Day Trips and Weekend Excursions, but there are NO MAPS to show where the drives are. There is NO INDEX to find a town you might interested in, and the chapter titles give almost NO CLUE as to where the drives are. What were Mr. Lohmann and his editor thinking?

The revised edition has maps and nice, colorful photos. I would say more, but I have places in

Virginia I want to go see now. Oh, the author does confirm my memory of having seen buffalo from the highway near Cumberland Gap!

It was a helpful guide to give me a general idea of what different areas of Virginia are like. I haven't planned my trip itinerary yet and traveled there, so I don't know how accurate it is.

I am a big fan of the author, who writes for our local newspaper. A frequent traveler, I've read my share of travel books and articles. Bill never writes a boring article because he really experiences the places he travels to and the people he meets there. Our family tries to get off of the interstate and take back roads whenever we can. Even with 50+ years of living in Virginia this book offers plenty of suggestions for new places to explore.

My mindset was to have the back road excursons more defined than what is written in this book. I was looking for something more descriptive which is why I only gave two stars.

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