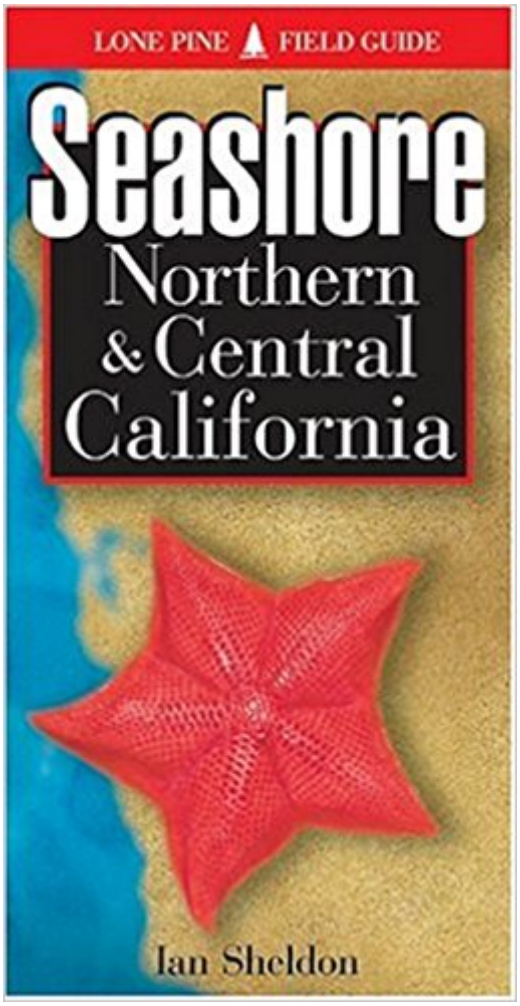
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Seashore Of Northern And Central California



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Synopsis

This pocket-sized illustrated guide helps unlock the mysteries of the diverse and abundant life of the Northern and Central California coastline. Artist and naturalist Ian Sheldon accurately and colorfully portrays 150 species of aquatic life. Color-coded tabs help with quick identification.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

IAN SHELDON is an accomplished artist, nature illustrator and ecologist, with a degree in ecology from Cambridge University. His studies have taken him around the world-throughout North and South America, Europe, Southeast Asia and South Africa.

I became aware of this excellent book thanks to another visitor to Pescadero State Beach Park. She was using it to send some children on a "treasure hunt" in the tide pools (she had scoped it out first and then would show the children a picture of the critter and send them out to find out which tide pool (or pools) it was in). Great idea for how to introduce kids to these forms of life which are among the earliest to have developed! Get this book and the Shape of Life dvd series and you and your kids will be well on your way to understanding how life developed and branched out into different forms.

I’ve really enjoyed thumbing through this pocket-sized guide. Lots of great information and will use it often this summer while leading tide pooling excursions during the Family Nature Summit on

Monterey Bay, CA

In many instances, cannot be beat for purchasing college books. I do not buy from the campus bookstore unless I absolutely have no choice. Just be sure that the ISBN matches what the college says you need, and you will end up saving $$$$$

This is a charming little book! Amiably written and beautifully illustrated by naturalist Ian Sheldon, it provides the reader with an excellent introduction to some of the critters that one can find along the seashore of northern and central California. Note that this book is neither a field guide (like Percy A. Morris' classic "Field Guide to Pacific Coast Shells") nor a comprehensive survey of littoral marine biology (like Ed Rickett's classic, "Between Pacific Tides"); Sheldon states as much in the book's introduction. Instead, it is a collection of vignettes for each of the critters that Sheldon has selected for our delight and admiration.Each vignette is concise - no more than a page long - and yet packed with a surprising amount of information. From these vignettes, one will discover the Rough Keyhole Limpet's defenses against marauding starfish, the Club-tipped Anemone's peculiar method of reproduction, the Blackeye Goby's favorite haunts, the reason why the Bent-nosed Macoma is bent, and much more. In each and every vignette, Sheldon shares his infectious love for these critters through his writing and his gentle humor.This book would be a great addition to the library of anyone with even a modest curiosity about the critters that dwell on the California shoreline. I recommend taking it along on your next trip to the California coast, and using it as a guide to find the critters that it describes. It may not help you identify every single creature that you find there, but it will certainly open up a whole new world for you, one that is these days often overlooked.

Mr. Sheldon is a master at depicting the beauty of tidepool creatures while also rendering a very accurate image. In the same tradition as Sibley, he has chosen artistic representations over photos. This makes it very easy to identify creatures as he has been able to select out the useful characteristics for identification. Not only are his drawings excellent, but he has also done a great job of representing those animals and algaes that one actually finds on the central coast.The descriptions he has written are interesting and engaging without talking down to the reader. I often take this book with me when I take my sixth-grade science students out to the tidepools. I am constantly amazed at how much the students love to look up and read about what they find in this book. I recommend this book over any other tidepool guide that I have seen.

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