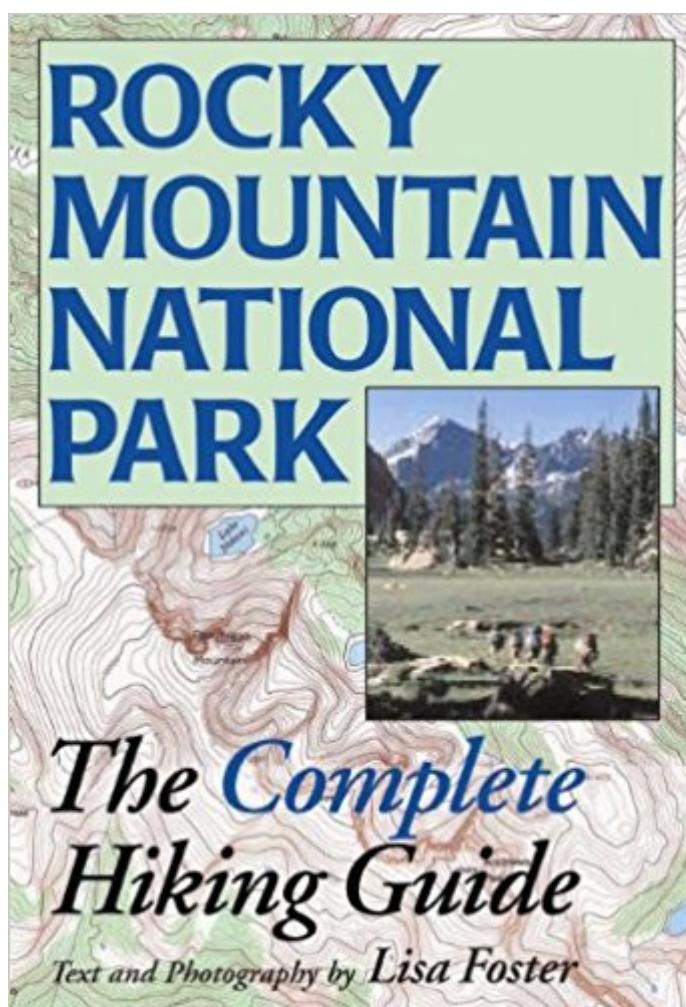


The book was found

Rocky Mountain National Park: The Complete Hiking Guide



Synopsis

The complete experience of hiking Rocky Mountain National Park has finally been captured in one comprehensive volume. All 400 named features in the Park are explored and two-thirds of this book covers off-trail hikes not commonly found in guidebooks. Extensively field-checked and accompanied by striking photography and USGS maps, this amazing collection draws upon Foster's over 7,000 hours of backcountry expertise. From casual strolls to class 4 climbing, no other book has tackled the entire park in such an in-depth and exciting way.

Book Information

Paperback: 400 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 56 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #173,921 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in Books > Travel > United States > Colorado > Rocky Mountain National Park #173 in Books > Travel > Food, Lodging & Transportation > Parks & Campgrounds #185 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Mountaineering > Mountain Climbing

Customer Reviews

When hiking in the mountains, one of our essential questions relates to elevation gain: how high is the trail head and how much higher is the destination? Rather than include elevation gain -- and distance -- with the trail descriptions, the author put this key info in an appendix at the back of the book. I've never seen another trail guide do this. When trying to decide which hikes to do, we were constantly flipping back and forth between the descriptions and the appendix; we just started handwriting the elevation and distance next to the descriptions. The book is exhaustive, but not as easy to use as it could have been.

Seems accurate, but this is a hard read when compared with something like David Day's CO and UT works. What's hard to read? The text is small (older eyes here), so it is not "fun" to read at home and useless to me in the field. I can get the topo-map based map slices illustrating the trails

elsewhere, and the little slices of them used are busy. I'm donating this as I can't use it.

We are frequent hikers and own a lot of hiking guides. We took this with us on a recent trip to Rocky Mountain NP and didn't find it to be very useful. The organization of the book itself meant that you had to flip back and forth between sections to find what you were looking for. The descriptions of hikes were basic at best and really didn't provide us with the information we were looking for. If you are just interested in knowing the locations of trail heads and what trails leave from that trail head and you don't mind a lot of flipping back and forth this book would work for you. We ended up just using our trail map and will buy a different book for our next trip.

Lots of good information, but poorly organized. Hikes are grouped by region, not trailhead, and basic stats about each hike are not included with the hike description but in an appendix. The appendix is 20 pages of small print and organized alphabetically by destination name. Good luck finding and comparing the distance and elevation gain for all the hikes from a specific trailhead.

Comprehensive but all the information is in snippets. I finally copied multiple pages and put them together to organize my hikes

Like the other reviewers said, the wealth of information in here is incredible. But using this book by itself is not a good idea. Another writer hit the nail on the head: you have to flip all over the place to put all the information together for a single hike you might be interested in. First you get the trail description, then you have to find out which trail head to use, then find out where that trail head is. The topo-based maps are HORRIBLE. I can't tell what's a trail and what's a road. Plus, they're zoomed in so much, I can't even tell where in the park that topo map is actually in or how to get there. The big destinations chart in the back is also overwhelming. How about breaking it up and putting a similar chart at the end of EACH SEPERATE REGION section? The flipping, cross-referencing, and vagueness of finding where these trails and how to get to them is truly maddening. Some GPS coordinates would be nice. That's how everyone gets around these days. This book will drive you nuts.

This book is incredible in the amount of comprehensive information it contains. I don't know what to say that hasn't been said in other reviews, except to say that yes, MANY of these hikes will get normal people in way over their heads. We have had to turn back from our hikes more often than we

have achieved our goals. This is totally normal! Trying routes and destinations that you can't always achieve is part of the awesomeness of hiking, and of RMNP in particular. Without this book we may never have known these amazing places existed. The best endorsement ever was when a ranger ambled over and asked where we were going that day. I don't want to say the destination because it's uncrowded and we'd like to keep it that way, but he said "I think you should try XX lake instead, it's a pleasant hike". I whipped out this book and started to look up his recommendation and he said "oh, you've got the GOOD book!" and moved on to the next hiking party. PS. don't go hiking off marked routes without a topo map even with a great book. I would say if you get lost and you don't have a topo map, it's sort of your fault (not the book's).

Too much detail for a brief visit. Spent more time looking for information than needed.

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