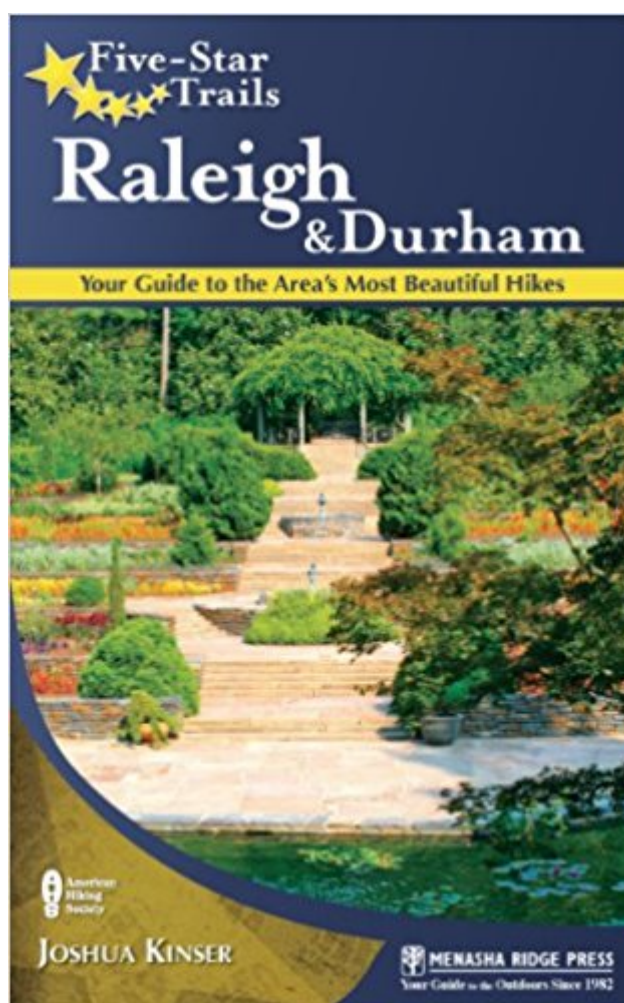


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# Five-Star Trails: Raleigh And Durham: Your Guide To The Area's Most Beautiful Hikes



## Synopsis

Five-Star Trails: Raleigh and Durham is a guide to the best day-hiking trails within a two-hour drive of the urban areas of Raleigh and Durham. Raleigh is North Carolina's capital and an anchor for the state's famous Research Triangle that includes Durham and Chapel Hill. Amid this metropolitan complex that also embraces Cary, Apex, and Wake Forest--home to more than 1.7 million people--the author leads readers to myriad places for scenic beauty, to sites of historic significance, and to neighborhoods that showcase the charms of urban life. All of the routes stay true to the book's "Five-Star Trails" title, based on the book series' rating system for scenery, trail condition, suitability for children, difficulty level, and solitude. To be selected for the book, each trail must truly shine in one or more of those areas while, at the same time, all of the trails combine to offer diversity for a wide range of hikers. Thus, this is the guidebook for a hiker seeking an arduous climb to a scenic overlook as much as it is for a weekend walker who wants an easy trail for his or her family.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Other Books By Joshua Kinser Eat Bark Fetch- A comedy about dogs

(.com/Eat-Bark-Fetch-Joshua-Kinser-ebook/dp/B01J9SA7MY) Good Dog, Bad Mountain: A Memoir

About a Dog, a Young Man, and a Hike on the Appalachian Trail- A hilarious, poignant, and sometimes heartbreaking true story about a hike on the Appalachian Trail. Mowgli is the eccentric, lovable, and somewhat destructive German Shepherd that leads the way. Chronicles of a Cruise

Ship Crew Member: Answers To All The Questions Every Passenger Wants To Ask- A laugh-out-loud memoir about what it's really like to work on a cruise ship. A #1 bestseller in "Cruise" and Caribbean" categories. The Hull Truth: Chronicles of a Cruise Ship Crew Member (Book Two)- A behind-the-scenes look at what it's like to work on a cruise ship as an art auctioneer. This humorous true story follows the author and his girlfriend through the often seedy and full-speed-ahead life as high-seas art hawkers. Ship of Darkness: Chronicles of a Cruise Ship Crew Member (Book Three)- A true story about a port-hopping adventure along the coast of Italy, Spain, Greece, and France that follows the misadventures of the author and his always-optimistic girlfriend after they are transferred to a cruise ship that crew members call a "ship of darkness". Cruise Ships Do Funny Things To Me- A collection of nineteen true short stories that peers through the porthole for a hilarious view into the ship life of a cruise ship crew member. The Cruise Ship Capers and the Missing Klimt: An Art Heist on the High Seas (Fiction)- A priceless painting by Gustav Klimt vanishes into the briny thin air, and everyone aboard the seven-day Caribbean cruise is a suspect. Florida Gulf Coast, published by Moon Handbooks- A guidebook exploring the best of Florida's Gulf Coast from Pensacola to Everglades National Park. Advice on the best beaches, accommodations, restaurants, activities, and major attractions. Hiking South Carolina, Falcon Guides- A guidebook to more than 60 of the best trails in South Carolina. Five-Star Trails: Charlotte- A hiking guide to over 30 great hikes around Charlotte, NC. Spotlight Pensacola: Including Fort Walton Beach and Alabama Gulf Shores- A 90-page compact guide covering this picture-perfect beach retreat.

Joshua Kinser is the author of Moon Handbook's guide to the Florida Gulf Coast, 3rd Edition, and several hiking guidebooks to the southeast including Five Star Trails: Charlotte, NC and Five Star Trails: Raleigh, NC. Joshua is also the author of Eat Bark Fetch, a comedy about dogs ([.com/Eat-Bark-Fetch-Joshua-Kinser-ebook/dp/B01J9SA7MY](https://www.amazon.com/Eat-Bark-Fetch-Joshua-Kinser-ebook/dp/B01J9SA7MY)).

Finally. After years of saving spare change, and after talking Pops into returning to sea life for a few days (he was a seaman in the U.S. Navy during WWII), I'm taking my first cruise! I have been reading a lot of books written by frequent cruisers to get some insight into what I've signed up for. And then I run across books by Joshua Kinser. He's a former ship musician and art dealer. I was really intrigued to get a behind the scenes taste of life aboard cruise ships. Boy, did his books pay off! I won't write any spoilers here, and you really may not believe me if I retold some of his stories, anyway, but I came away with some eye opening revelations. I had no idea! Though Mr. Kinser

didn't write just to lay bare the crappy conditions cruise crew exist under, I'm sure going to be a lot nicer and more respectful of any crew I meet on my cruise. These books are definitely entertaining as well. Joshua Kinser is a masterful story teller. I enjoyed every story in his Chronicles of a Cruise Ship Crew Member. What are you waiting for? Get reading and see if your perceptions change, too! James Hofheins in land locked Utah

We are cruisers. My wife and I have been cruising about 65 years and have been on almost every ship that sails or has sailed. Started on the QE 1 and the original Queen Mary in 1951. Lots of change has taken place, and this book is a fun read for the first part of it. Unfortunately, the author laboriously goes into extraneous and long winded unnecessary detail in the latter of the book, but as a cruiser, I enjoy reading most of it

A BLAST of a book that will get you thinking seriously as well as philosophically about some issues, but only fleetingly, as most of your reading time will be spent snorting in laughter. Wow. "Who would have thought!" moments will alternate with "yup, ain't that the truth?" -- especially if you've ever been at work on the sea, and I have. For me it really was a blast, as in, a blast from the past. Anyone new to seafaring will be steeped in ship lore right quick, and anyone that's an old hand will feel back "on board" with this book in tow. This book will show you how completely different ship life is when compared with normal life on land. Did I mention that I recommend standard Irish pub favorites such as "Drunken Sailor" by Patrick Day as the perfect backdrop/soundscape to accompany the reading of these briny chapters? I thought it was hilarious that the only Kindle readers' highlight that I found marked in the book was this little piece of advice: "You should sneak Everclear aboard the cruise ship in water bottles like everyone else. That will bring the fun ship (sic) to a whole new level." Three readers highlighted this as the most memorable part of the book! I guess they were planning their future cruise experience very carefully lol! Portholes were a big deal to me when I worked on ships and I see it was no different for author Joshua. At least the crew on oil tankers had one in their room; no such luck for most Cruise Ship Crew members (I'm capitalizing here because I liked this particular example of alliteration). We learn in intimate detail the many ways a cruise ship is divided - physical divisions, social and ethnic ones too. The descriptions of the some of the staff are hilarious. The different cultures found on various levels of shipboard hierarchy are pored over with the fine-tooth comb of the author's funny bone. We learn, with humor, how the Indian security guards talk and think. But, most of all, we come to understand the "neurotic, spastic and intense personality that the author and every other musician [around the world] has

developed."Overall, "Chronicles of a Cruise Ship Crew Member" provides a very enjoyable reading experience. However, there is some unnecessary wordiness and repetition that would be best eliminated. Several of the main chapter headings are formulated as questions, some of which don't seem to be adequately answered in their respective chapters; these are my only gripes. Finally, we learn that the author writes a good novel too, judging from the excerpt chapters of his new book "Cruz Ship Capers" that are included at the end of this book.

THIS BOOK IS HILARIOUS. AND REALLY TELLS ALOT OF GREAT STORIES. AND FACTS I JUST REALLY LOVED THIS BOOK AS A LONG TIME CRUISER I LOVE BOOKS ABOUT CRUISE SHIPS.I ALSO ORDERED THE SECOND BOOK IB THE SET. AND PLAN TO ORDER TO ORDER THE THRID JOSH SURE MUST OF WRITTEN DOWN ALL THE STORIES. THE ONLY THING I DIDN'T LIKE IN THE BOOK IS GARY HOW GOT DRUKEN AND GOT EVERY ONE FIRED I THINK THEY SHOULD HAVE JUST FIRED GARY AND NO ONE ELES. CAN'T WAIT TO GET THE SECOND BOOK.AND THEN THE THRID BOOK. I JUST LOVE HIS SHORT FUNNY LITTLE BOOK CRUISE SHIPS DO FUNNY THINGS TO ME I LOVED IT SO MUCH SENT COPIES TO TWO TRAVEL AGENT FRIENDS AND MYBOYFRIND WHO ALSO WAS A SINGER AND THEN CRUISE DRIECTER. SORRY FOR THE WRONG SPELLING. I MAY SEND ALL OF THEM COPIES THIS GREAT BOOK ALSO.

I read this book because I have taken several cruises and wanted to learn more about the life of a cruise ship crew member. This writer did live aboard a cruise ship for several years while working as a musician. He recounts his experience living aboard the ship and tries to write in the format of answering common questions that passengers want to know about the crews' livng conditions. However, the writing is not the best. Mr. Kinser repeats the same things many times in different ways. I felt like he was just trying to fill pages in his book.

Interesting, but this guy is not a great writer. He will make a point...like for instance, how it's hell to work on a Cruise Ship, then immediately contradict it by saying how wonderful it is to work on a Cruise Ship. Or he will excoriate the Cruise Lines for the hours crew members work and in the next breath discuss how deadly boring it is when you're not working...nothing to do but drink in the Crew Bar. Etc., etc. Very passive-aggressive.I learned a few things, but actually, not much.

I was just captivated and drawn to this book like white on rice! Very very well written and found

myself laughing out loud numerous times. Joshua Kinser is a natural at writing and makes it so much fun. Yes, I once also worked cruise ships and can verify that Joshua's chronicals are right on when describing ship life. He has the knack for taking something that can be dark and negative at times and "sailing" right through it with humor and insight. That's a gift ! Looking forward to reading now book two and three.

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