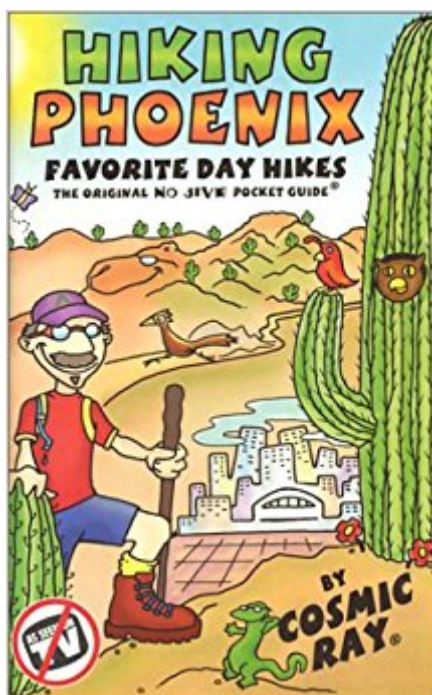


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Hiking Phoenix: Favorite Day Hikes



Synopsis

Newest in a series of popular outdoor guides by Cosmic Ray, Hiking Phoenix details 50 of the best of the best day hikes in and around Phoenix. Clear, bold, easy-to-read and down-to-earth maps will connect you from freeway to trailhead and then guide you along the way as you explore the desert trails. The hikes are for all levels of ability. The accompanying verbal descriptions include a quick view contour profile showing elevation change over distance so you can see what you are in for at a glance. Choose your hike with solid information about distance, time, difficulty, level of route finding skill, best season to hike, view wildflowers or whether to take along the family pooch. There is a fun guide to the types of cactus found in this beautiful Sonoran desert, a chart depicting what to expect from the weather and a very helpful up-to-date overview map of the Phoenix freeway system. Hikes range from urban trail areas like Camelback, Squaw (Piestewa) Peak, South Mountain, Pinnacle Peak and the Phoenix Mountains to trails all the way out in the White Tank, Utery and Superstition Mountains. To help you choose from so many hikes, there is a special icon used to depict a few certain trails that are super favorites, worth a far journey and not to be missed. There are also a half dozen cooler high country hikes with creeks and pools shown for when the Arizona desert gets cooking. All in all, the book is done in a humorous, cartoony, entertaining style that will add to the enjoyment of any adventure. The bright attractive cover and rounded corners on this volume make it a perfect companion that fits in your pocket or pack, full of useful information on hiking in this most unique part of the planet.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Enjoyable, accurate and down-to-earth, Hiking Phoenix is great for beginners. Seasoned hikers will also find it entertaining and informative." --The Arizona Republic, February 19, 2004

I'm on the plus side of fifty, and though I have loved traveling in the Southwest all my life, hiking is a new passion for me, ignited by a recent trip to Southern Utah and its wonderful National Parks. So when I began searching for books about local hikes, Cosmic Ray caught my eye. I love his accuracy, his honesty, his humor, and his obvious love of the subject matter. I've done several hikes in the book now, and thanks to his recommendation of the Peralta Canyon Trail in the Superstition Mountains, I have discovered one of the most beautiful, magical places in the world. After I began to do the hikes in this book I realized I had been to many of these areas on field trips when I was in grade school. They were so unspoiled, I assumed they were an hour or two away from town. When I followed Ray's trail into the Piestewa Peak area, right in the middle of the city, civilization went away. Amazing! Buy his guide for Flagstaff/Sedona, too. Follow his suggestions, and you'll be such a happy hiker . . .

We recently took a 16 day hiking honeymoon to Phoenix (housesitting for a friend by night, and enjoying the desert during the day). Ray's book was absolutely perfect; convincing my more hardcore and adventuresome husband that we didn't need to travel to the Grand Canyon to get the blood flowing and see amazing rock formations. Ray's recommendations made for a memorable experience and, after getting a feel for his difficulty ratings, we were perfectly able to plan and alternate our more strenuous hikes- like Picacho Peak- with beautiful desert strolls. South Pass Mountain and Wind Cave Trail were trails we will never forget- thank you, Ray, for the amazing introduction to Phoenix!!!

Great book, a fun read, excellent suggestions!

Had heard great things from a friend about this and I wasn't disappointed. Great book with the basics on each hike, directions to the trailheads and a description on the nature you see on the hikes. Highly recommended.

One of the best trail finding books that I have seen. Not a lot of words, just description of the trails and conditions. Less reading and more hiking. AWESOME!!!!

I make about 2 trips to Phoenix every year and this book has been great for finding fun hikes for my family. Cosmic Ray has many great tips and accurate descriptions of every trail that we have hiked. This book has made my family's trips to Phoenix so much more enjoyable. I highly recommend it if you plan any hikes in the Phoenix area.

A very handy little guide, which made a perfect gift for my parents that come down to visit Arizona. Humorous and eye-appealing, this is a great book for anyone hiking in and around the Phoenix area for 1 day or year round!

No too detailed yet still gives you the info you need to decide whether to trek each site - no need to hike to clear your head after this book!

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