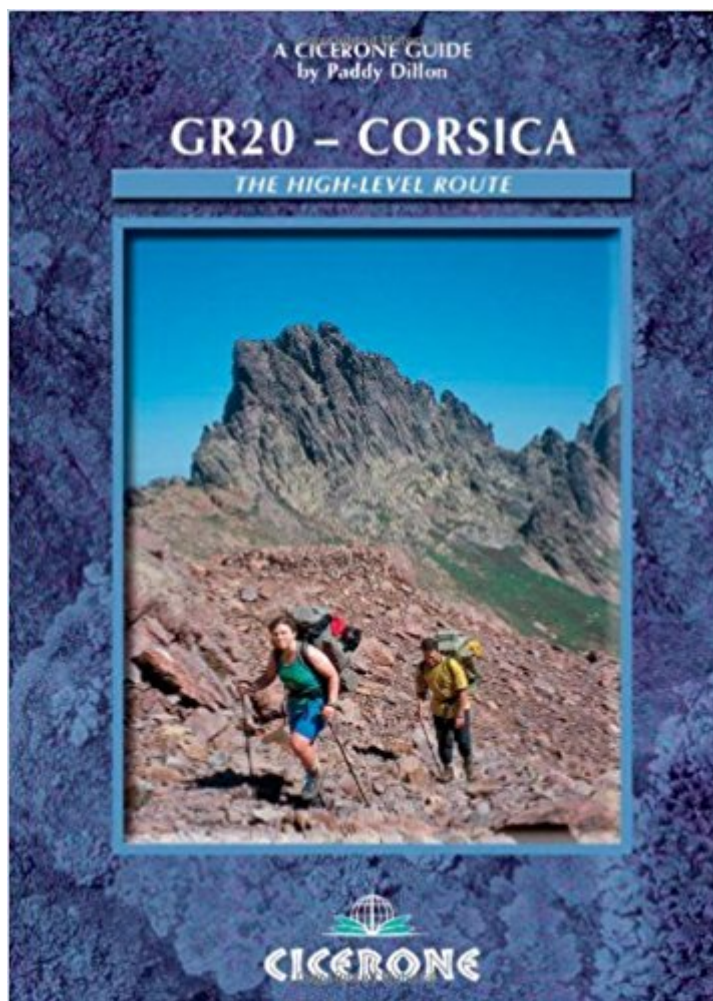


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# GR20: Corsica: The High-level Route (Cicerone Guides)



## Synopsis

Corsica is a mountainous island in the Mediterranean and its GR20 is reputed to be the toughest waymarked trail in Europe. It is an ambitious route for fit and agile walkers, covering 190km in about two weeks as it makes a complete traverse through the high mountains, backpacking the whole way, sometimes with hands-on scrambling. Facilities are limited to a dozen mountain refuges and a mere handful of hotels or g?tes. The 'classic' route is described, along with high- and low-level alternatives, plus extra mountain climbs. This guide explains exactly what is involved in following the GR20, including what walkers need to carry and how difficult the route is in places, revealing everything you need to know. Detailed route descriptions and stunning photographs leave walkers in no doubt as to what is required of them to walk this exceptionally beautiful, dramatic and rugged route.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is an unashamable plug for Paddy Dillion's book. Its really excellent! Even the "foreigners" we met were using it- as it is both more accurate and relevent than the alternatives. If you think its too heavy, as my ultra light nut thought, just do what he did and cut it up- but don't leave for the GR20 without it." Posted on [www.Outdoorsmagic.com](http://www.Outdoorsmagic.com) discussion site, July 2006 'Paddy provides everything to know before tackling the route.' Strider LDWA, August 2006 This book is not only a good book, but a down to earth practical book. Paddy gives you all the pre trek beta, and doesn't hide anything. The photos in the book are excellent and leave you in no doubt of the breathtaking

scenery. The recent new maps are an excellent improvement and make its usage far easier than the previous edition (impartial feedback). The Aitchison-Jones Walker's Handbook 2007

Paddy Dillon is a prolific outdoor writer with over 60 guidebooks to his name, as well as more than a dozen booklets and brochures. He writes for a number of outdoor magazines and other publications, and produces material for tourism groups and other organisations. He lives near the Lake District and has walked in every county in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales; writing about walks in every one of them. He has led guided walks and walked extensively in Europe, as well as in Nepal, Tibet, Africa and the Rocky Mountains of Canada and the US.

I bought this in preparation for a GR20 trip later this year so in this respect, I haven't put it to use. The intro provides a general overview of Corsica and the GR20 and provides some useful prep tips. Unfortunately, the bulk of the book deals with detailed textual descriptions of the route itself and, unless the GR20 is somehow different from all my other hiking trips in that this will end up being somehow useful, appears to be borderline useless. "Go straight 100 metres until you spot a tree then turn left and walk down a scree slope 50 metres and ...." Maybe if I did the GR20 in the fog while reading the book such a description might be useful, but otherwise I can't imagine what the point is. It would have been infinitely more easy to have small maps with "water source", "scree", "tree", etc written on them along with point to point time estimates. Instead, we get big blocks of descriptive text of extremely limited planning value. Don't get me wrong, text can be valuable, but, well, not here. Should have used the same money to buy a map. This book adds nothing useful as far as I can tell over reading a few websites from people giving their general advice on doing the GR20.== UPDATE: ==I have now completed the GR20, North to South, in May-June 2014 (in 6.5 days - we are a relatively fast team). My suspicions about the book are largely confirmed. While deep down some of the information it provides is useful or at least interesting, this book pales in almost every way to the French-language GR-20 guide that a lot of the French hikers carry. The biggest - by far the biggest - flaw in the content of the book is that it tries to describe in (a lot!) of text what really should be in maps or illustrations. The maps included in this book are tiny and, perversely, have been airbrushed in such a way that all detail except that immediately around the small segment of the route being discussed is purposely obscured. Now, this may be due to the publisher's inability to secure greater reprint rights of the maps, but as a reader and user, my concern is for the final product, not the process, and, I'm sorry, it's poor. This book is strictly an 'emergency ration' - usable only if absolutely nothing else is available. Physical format of the book: i

bought this book via kindle. on my ipad it's "ok," though you'd be foolish to carry an ipad with you on the gr20. On an iPod touch (what i did carry) or an iphone, it displays as some \*3000\* tiny pages. again, basically unusable. The physical book published by cicerone is no better. By my rough estimation it is 3x the weight of the much much much much better french-language guidebook (which you can pick up in corsica on arrival and do not need to know much french to use). Cicerone really needs to get its head around its core business - for example, by publishing the same content in lighter format (for example, without large white borders around the text on each page) suitable for 'on the road/trail' use as some people will doubtlessly use it. It is a pity that cicerone have a large chunk of the hiking/mountaineering market at this point, as their efforts as a publisher leave a lot to be desired. BOOK NOT RECOMMENDED. 2-stars is more than fair for this book.

Great for planning my GR20 hike, will bring it with me on the hike. Great tips for the experienced hiker and the novice as well.

The shipment, right on time. The book seems to be as detailed as expected. The road stories are clear and the tips are important. This is the right book to take to the GR20

Paddy Dillon's GR20 guide is, IMHO, the best guide available. I walked the GR20 during October 2008, and saw many other guide books. The maps are without competition (in most other guides, the maps are drawn by hand!); the water sources pinpointed accurately; walking times are more reasonable (although you should always regard them as estimates); and more side trips and connections than most other books. In addition, the guidebook is small and relatively light (just over 300gr, 10.5oz). It contains nothing more than needed for the walk (which, if you're watching your weight, is crucial). On the downside, of course, is that it contains nothing more than needed for the walk :) If you plan to see anything else on the island, you will need to get something for that too (for example, the trailblazer guide has some information on the main cities, but it really isn't enough for anything more than a day's visit in each). Get this guide, you will not regret it.

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