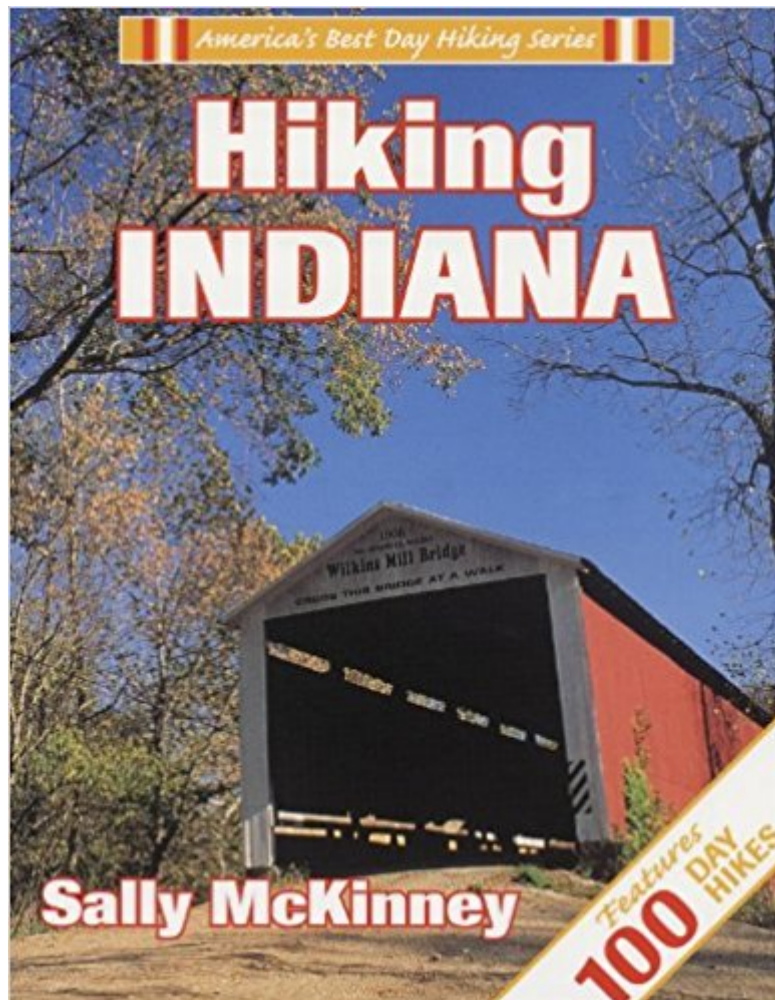




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Hiking Indiana (America's Best Day Hiking)



Synopsis

This detailed guide showcases the 100 best day hikes throughout the state of Indiana. In one handy volume, you will find all the information you need to enjoy self-guided tours of the most scenic hiking paths and trails. Hiking Indiana includes a trail-finder grid so you can choose the hike that has all the features you want. Each trail is marked on an easy-to-read map, and each trail description includes the trail distance, approximate hiking time, difficulty rating, and points of interest along the way. The trails range the full spectrum of difficulty—from short, leisurely strolls to long, rugged hikes—no matter where you want to go:— From the lake shore in the northwest, through the canyons of the west-central area and the hills of the south, to the river valleys in the far southwest;— From hikes through the urban areas of Indianapolis, Fort Wayne, Lafayette, and historic Vincennes to the expansive wilderness of Hoosier National Forest;— From the dunes, ponds, and marshes of Indiana Dunes State Park along Lake Michigan to the Wyandotte Cave State Recreation Area by the banks of the Ohio River. Hiking Indiana is loaded with information about the park locations of the trails, such as available facilities, hours and dates of operation, important rules, permits required, and directions to the trailhead. It also includes descriptions of the history, terrain, flora, and fauna of each area to make your hike enjoyable and educational. And with listings of nearby attractions, you can turn your day hike into a weekend getaway. With Hiking Indiana, you'll be inspired to take advantage of the many hiking opportunities in the state, letting them guide you to the most scenic and interesting places along every path.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

""""The most detailed hiking guide to Hoosier trails imaginable. An excellent guide.""David MannweilerBook Editor, Indianapolis Star """"An incredible amount of useful information packed into a clear, readable, and entertaining format. Helpful for people just out for a day stroll as well as serious trekkers. It lets you pinpoint hikes that would be of particular interest to you. Detailed descriptions of trails makes this book much more helpful than more general travel guides. The large format and easy-to-read maps make finding your way a pleasure for armchair travelers as well as day hikers.""Lynn HollandProfessional freelance writer and editorFormer editor of the Lafayette, IN, Leader "

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There have been so many changes since this book was published in 2000: trails extended - gps capabilities (which did exist then however coordinates aren't cited) - trails closed. This book is a starting point for hiking in Indiana. Yes - it's great that it indicates where things are - but guidance once you get there is a little lacking.Needs an update for GPS - and a revisit to all the locations - frankly she she make this into an ebook.

I checked this out of the library hoping to find some interesting and challenging places to hike with my sons, but as another reviewer wrote, it's mostly a rehash of what you can find on the DNR site. This book would be OK for those that still aren't on the internet or those that want very simple and short dayhikes (only 2 trails listed are over 4 miles one way).What I found quite disappointing was the fact that several trail reviews were not complete because the author only went part of the way because of conditions, weather or remaining daylight. Why would you include a trail if you weren't willing to go back to do a complete review? That leads me to think that either she was stretching to come up with 100 (several excellent choices were left out) or there was a deadline she couldn't

meet. I also checked out *Indiana Best Hikes*, and the first 25 pages suggest it is far superior to this one.

Hiking Indiana is an organized guide to finding your way around on foot. When I opened Hiking Indiana, the first surprise was its "workbook" format - the pages are perforated on the edge to be torn out and packed. It's really a book to be used and become as worn out as a hiker after a good day on the trails. The first pages include a Trail Finder chart and a state map with numbers matching the table of contents that is organized by North, Central and South regions of the state. There are 45 parks or cities as chapters that include several Trail Sites and Trails. Park Facilities are shown by key icons, miles listed and Trail Difficulty Rating that is shown by 1 boot for easiest and 5 for most difficult trails. The chart also shows Terrain/Landscape with checkmarks for hills, prairie/grass, forest, lake, wetlands, overlook and river/stream. I was also surprised to see historic trails and city trails such as Madison's Historic District Walking Tour, Columbus' Architecture Walk, and Indianapolis' Canal Walk and Eagle Creek Bird Sanctuary Loop. There's even a canoe trail for those, as they said, with extra hour to give feet a rest. There are maps of parks and trails, but you'll need your atlas or state road map to get to the site. The narrative is an easy read and informative. Sally McKinney includes cautions, such as the trail goes through remote, forested hill country and to let park officials know when you leave and expect to return, to check back in or park officials may go looking for you. Another caution is when you have to walk through shallow water - a creek without a bridge, and which trails to watch for plenty of droppings from waterfowl. Hiking Indiana throws in tidbits on the state's history. Ouabache State Park has a Wildlife Exhibit Loop with bison, and 'Did you know that a bison image decorates the Indiana state seal?' This is a book to leaf through and explore. I really liked Hiking Indiana since it is a good read, lets you explore places to go, and made it all interesting. I am ready and motivated to go from wannabe hiker to getting out the hiking boots.

I have lived in Indiana for 16 yrs and have walked, hiked and horseback rode all the popular spots. This book has already found me a ton of new exciting places to go!

I was disappointed. A large part of this book draws on the Indiana state park system. Granted, the parks have some wonderful trails, but trail maps are distributed when you enter the parks. This book gives you little of the adventurous or out-of-the-way.

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