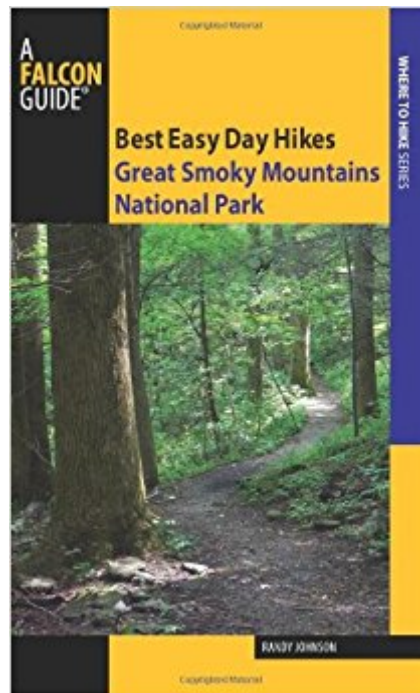




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Best Easy Day Hikes Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Best Easy Day Hikes Series)



Synopsis

Best Easy Day Hikes – Great Smoky Mountains National Park includes concise descriptions of the best short hikes in the area, with detailed maps of the routes. The 22 hikes in this guide are generally short, easy to follow, and guaranteed to please.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"A simple, well laid out book for park visitors interested in short hikes with great payoffs." – Kurt Repanshek, NationalParksTraveler.com

Best Easy Day Hikes Great Smoky Mountains National Park includes concise descriptions and detailed maps for twenty-two easy-to-follow hikes in America's most popular national park, home to one of the most pristine ecosystems on the East Coast. Featured walks lead to stunning scenery, from waterfalls and wildflowers to historic and interpretive sites, as well as spectacular views. – Look inside for: – Thirty-minute strolls to full-day adventures – Hikes for everyone, including families – Mile-by-mile directions and clear trail maps – Trail Finder for best hikes for backpackers, waterfalls, history buffs, children, or great views – GPS coordinates

The book was very helpful in finding and navigating trails. Specifically, we did 4 hikes/excursions from this book (all near Gatlinburg) and the info was very accurate and helpful. Until you go there

and get a feel of the park & access to it, it is hard to imagine. The Grapeyard Trail is surrounded by rhododendrum so the trail often feels like you are walking through a cave of them. I can only imagine how beautiful it must be in the springtime. I'd love to go back.

This was the most useful hiking guide we found for a short trip to GSMNP and the surrounding area. There are textual descriptions of several trails within the park, including textual descriptions of how to find the trailhead and some information about what the hike will be like as you are on it. For some of the trails it would be useful to have a hiking map: I was unable to find a good one online before the trip and we weren't there long enough to ask around for a store that might carry them. Within the park however the trails, once you find them, are marked well and there are enough people on them that you have a pretty good idea of where you are for a short partial day trek in good weather.

This guidebook is a short, efficient survey of day-hikes in the Great Smoky Mountains. We used it extensively in planning our trip (two middle-aged parents, two teens) and found that it was a fairly good way of identifying day hikes that might prove interesting. Beyond this, however, it falls well short of the standard for trail guides. In fact, it isn't really a trail guide in the sense of AMC White Mountains or other trail guides you might be familiar with. Description of each trail is very perfunctory, with almost no detail on geology or biology. Gross distances and intermediate waypoints are listed, but that's about it. Most surprising and most disappointing is a complete lack of any information about climb and descent. The trail descriptions don't even include a basic listing of elevation gain/loss, let alone the trail profile that would be the standard now for a good guide book. The author's vague and subjective descriptions of difficulty are all you have to go on. This was no problem for our family (even though we're not athletes by any stretch)-- with a little stamina and hiking experience you can easily complete even the trip the author calls "not easy but included because some will do it as a daytrip." But there are no helpful details and in places, the writing is sufficiently vague that you can't tell whether a given spur trip is out-and-back or can be completed as a loop. In another case, the description of the trailhead was so vague and incomplete we couldn't even find the trail without consulting web blogs via a smart phone.

I bought several guide books for my recent trip to GSMNP but this one was the one we used the most and it is small enough to take with you on the hikes. It has maps of the trails which helped a lot as this park is sorely lacking in the map department unless you can find the topo map at the visitor center store, the map the park gives out is useless and could be dangerous in my opinion.

Get the topo map and use this guide for best results.

This guide is a great little tool. They have all sorts of different categories for experienced hikers to beginners and even families with children. The hikes are broken down into areas and include length, distance and even tips for each hike. I can't wait to use it this summer!

This guide is handy and a perfect size to carry with you into the park and onto the trail. This book is well organized and it is easy to find just the right hike for whatever plans you have. The book starts with general information and a safety brief. Each trail has complete information, maps, and advice all bundled into a few easy to read and understand pages. I have Falcon Guides for hiking and scenic drives and this book is a great addition to my library.

Worth the money. Wish it had more hikes listed but for just starting out hiking this is perfect. I recommend also getting the map of the Great Smoky Mountains. (Found here: http://www..com/gp/aw/d/1566953014/ref=mp_s_a_1_1?qid=1436012608&sr=8-1&pi=AC_SY200_QL40&keywords=smoky+mountain+map&dpPI=1&dpID=51a1eQZBmOL&ref=plSrch) The two together were very helpful. Love the smokies!!

I love hiking and this book has helped me when I take people who don't hike as much as I do. I don't wanna wear them out the first time....I want them to go back with me.!! Lol

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