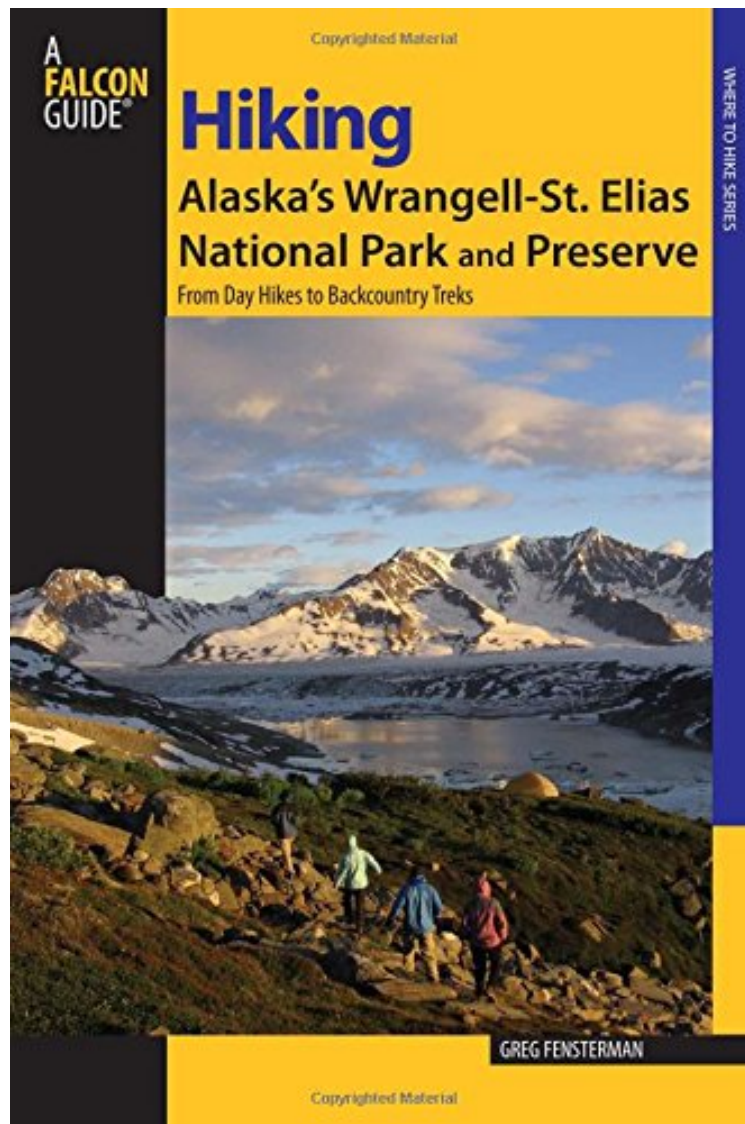


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Greg Fensterman

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Greg Fensterman : Hiking Alaska's Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve: From Day Hikes To Backcountry Treks (Regional Hiking Series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hiking Alaska's Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve: From Day Hikes To Backcountry Treks (Regional Hiking Series):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Essential guidebook for hiking in Wrangell St. Elias By Jake S. I used this guidebook to plan out a 2 week backpacking trip in Wrangell St. Elias. Overall it's one of the best backpacking guidebooks I've ever read. The trip descriptions are almost a perfect blend of critical route details mixed with terrific descriptions of what you get to see and experience on each hike. When I first started researching backpacking trips in the largest park in the US I was overwhelmed. This book gave me all the info I needed to narrow down my options and choose two great one week hikes. My only criticism is that some of the difficulty ratings seem to be uneven. I hiked from Bremner Mine to Tebay Lakes which was an extremely difficult backpacking trek. The book warned of this in the overall description of the route. However sometimes the detailed description would describe a day of moderate traversing that for me ended up being anything but moderate.. Often those traverses turned into steep side hilling on slippery vegetation, navigating cliff bands, and bushwhacking through dense vegetation. I have a lot of experience backpacking in rough terrain, but that hike pushed me to my limits. On the morning of my last day of hiking I ran into another group going the opposite direction. They had taken 3 days to get to that point. I made the distance in one grueling day, but I could understand how the other group could have taken 3 days. Needless to say they were forced to turn around and retreat back to Tebay Lakes since there was no way they could cover the rest of the trip in the 4 days they had left. My second hike was the Pyramid Peak Traverse. This was rated in the same overall difficulty level as the Bremner hike just a day or two shorter. However I had no problem with that trip. I gave myself the recommended five days and spent the first two doing 4-5 hours of hiking over comparatively moderate terrain (for Alaska's standards). The weather got bad on my 3rd day and I wanted to take in the views from the final pass so I ended up spending two full days camped out below the pass. I then covered the rest of the trip in one more day of hiking. In all it was a moderate 3 days of hiking. Nothing like the rigor of the Bremner hike. So just realize this is a guide. If you're backpacking in Alaska you have to be prepared and you cannot overestimate your abilities. This book will give you the essential info needed to navigate these routes, but it isn't an instruction manual. You'll have to rely on your own skills and be willing to improvise if you want to complete the more difficult routes described here. With all that said I can't wait to go back to Wrangell St. Elias and you can be sure I'll have this book safely tucked into my backpack when I do.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. understated obstacles. ..By SHFB This book is essential and helpful if you do not have experience in a specific region of the park. Just be forewarned, the scale in Alaska is different. The descriptions in this book are, on occasion, profoundly understated. Similarly, some of the described estimated route times are unrealistically short, and we happen to be, "hearty", as they say in McCarthy. Some crossings should not be done. Some obstacles cannot be avoided and you better not even vaguely overestimate your capabilities. That said, my wife and I have had unbelievable amounts of fun for up to two weeks at a time in the park. Your life will be different and better if you are lucky enough to wander here. Lastly, The GPS coordinates of some points listed are incorrect. Looks like probably typing errors? As usual, it's always best to just plot your own and use the map compass.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Very accurate book By dan dewitt Great guide book on a beautiful area that I would highly recommend. I have done many of the hikes in the book. It give you a very accurate idea of what to expect out of a hike. These are not easy hikes due to the terrain so don't be mistaken when it says it is "moderate"; on the spectrum of hikes it may be moderate but that doesn't mean everyone can do it. Don't solely rely on it for maps and exact details but it wasn't meant for that.

The first book of its kind for the largest national park in the United States. Six times the size of Yellowstone National Park, Wrangell-St. Elias welcomes 40,000 visitors every year, and each of them will maximize the visit with this all-new guidebook. Detailed information is provided for navigating fifty of the best hiking routes through 13.2 million acres of Alaskan wilderness. The book is organized by type of trip: day hikes, frontcountry treks (starting from road-accessible trailheads), and remote backcountry treks (accessible via fly-in). There are detailed maps and black and white photographs as well as sidebars and narratives about river crossings, navigation, bear safety, wildlife, seasonal changes, and finding the routes.

From the Back Cover Hiking Alaska's Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve guides hikers through the pristine beauty and wilderness of the largest U.S. national park. Detailed information helps you navigate fifty of the best hiking routes throughout the park's 13.2 million acres. Professional guide and author Greg Fensterman leads you on short leg-stretcher walks, hikes that go beyond the trails in the frontcountry (starting from road-accessible trailheads), and remote multi-day backcountry treks (accessible via fly-in) for the most experienced hikers. This invaluable guide provides detailed route maps, photographs, and additional information about local history and lore, river crossings, route navigation, bear safety, wildlife, and seasonal changes.