

[Mobile book] Hiking Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Regional Hiking Series)

# Hiking Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Regional Hiking Series)

*Kevin Adams*

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## Hiking Great Smoky Mountains National Park



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**Kevin Adams : Hiking Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Regional Hiking Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hiking Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Regional Hiking Series):

42 of 42 people found the following review helpful. A Great Hiking GuideBy Gwen P.My family and I just returned from our vacation in the Smoky Mts. This was one of the two guides we used during our stay and it was very helpful.

As parents of two smaller children, ages 5 and 8, we needed a guide that included shorter day hikes and not just the overnight type. This guide did just that. Here's what I liked and didn't like about the book:

Things I liked: The way it broke down each hike with accurate descriptions of the trail, what you can expect to see while hiking it (the highlights), where to find the trail head, a topographical-type picture showing where the hills are on the hike, personal information about the trail and its history as well as beautiful pictures. The trails are organized by location within the park so when you're at a particular part of the park, you can zero-in on those hikes in that area. There are also maps to show you where the trail meets up with other trails in the area.

Things I didn't like about the book: Though the maps are helpful for showing the specific location, I found myself having to check our park map to be able to pinpoint exactly where the trail was located. I wish the book would include a more "overview" park map as well. Also, since we were looking for trails which were around 6 miles round trip or less, the author had a habit of running two or more trails together to form one big hike. Many of these hikes were ten-plus miles long. He did this to form a loop rather than having to back-track, but it would have been nice if he could have given the shorter version as an option.

Overall, I would certainly recommend this book to anyone. For those seeking to take 8-10 mile hikes or some over night hikes, this book is ideal. We also purchased at the park visitor center, two maps - Water Falls and Day Hikes (\$1 each) - which were actually VERY helpful! The dayhikes were about 5 miles round trip or less with a very brief description. At the visitor center, we also purchased a book called Smokies Road Guide which gave some background information about each section of the park and has beautiful colored pictures. For those who like to plan ahead, the maps and book can be ordered off the internet at the park's website.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Very helpful, but....

By Sarah  
This book goes into great detail about the variety of trails in the Smoky Mountains.

Pros:-Lists hundreds of trails and breaks them into a variety of categories-Displaces an elevation chart for each trail-Gives historical/ecological information for trails

Cons:-Does not have a glossary (trails are in order based on the section of the park they are in)-Some key info is not listed until the end of a section on a given trail - so make sure you read the ENTIRE section before choosing a trail. My friend and I recently hiked a trail that was listed as being great and having a fire tower at the top. Too bad we didn't read the second page until 4 miles into a strenuous, bear scat everywhere, 5 miles straight up to find out that they had built an air quality monitoring station on the fire tower and you couldn't go up to see the views!

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Guide

By Amy  
Just got back from a trip to the Smokys where we spent three nights camping (Cosby campground) and two days hiking. This book was informative for pre-trip planning and very useful for choosing which trails you want to hike. I felt that the author's scale of "moderate" and "difficult" (we hiked one of each) was accurate and I also appreciated the step-by-step descriptions of the trails itself (when you're hiking along three different trails and come to several intersections, this is useful).

One reviewer noted that they were all day hikes - I was surprised by this, because I found several 1 and 2 over nighters that I'm tempted to invest in backpacking gear for and another 2-4 night hike that sounds like an awesome challenge. I think this book is very comprehensive, a good collection for the beginner, moderately-experienced and experienced day hiker, along with several ideas for backpacking trips.

This is an excellent hiking guide that I would recommend for anyone planning on hiking in the Smokys.

This guide features 82 hikes within Great Smoky Mountains National Park. With over 800 miles of maintained trails within the park, author Kevin Adams guides hikers through the rugged landscape and dense vegetation of the Great Smokies so they can have an intimate experience and see everything they would want to see, right from an official trail. Clear and concise trail descriptions and brilliant photography will make this guide a requirement when heading into the backcountry of America's most visited national park.

From the Back Cover  
Lace up your boots and sample more than eighty hikes in the spectacular Great Smoky Mountains National Park that straddles the North Carolina - Tennessee border. Experience the densely forested trails of America's most visited national park, with its abundant wildlife, lush foliage, and hundreds of miles of cascading streams. Here you'll discover old-growth forests, waterfalls of all shapes and sizes, and a wide variety of mosses, lichens, ferns, and wildflowers. Local hiker and outdoor photographer Kevin Adams introduces you to this and more.

Inside you'll find: up-to-date trail information; detailed maps and elevation profiles; clear directions from major access points; difficulty and traffic ratings for each hike; zero-impact camping tips; vacation planning and a hiker's checklist. Whether you are a day-tripper or long-distance hiker, old hand or novice, you'll find trails suited to every ability and interest throughout the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.