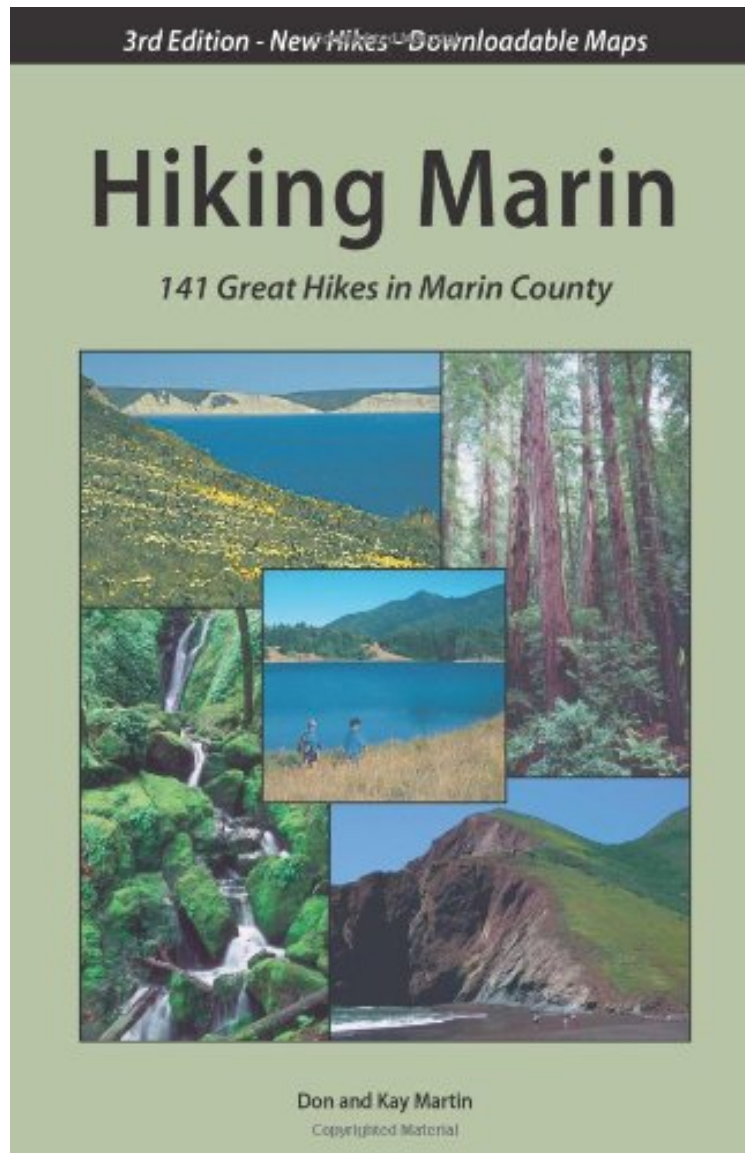


(Free pdf) Hiking Marin: 141 Great Hikes in Marin County

# Hiking Marin: 141 Great Hikes in Marin County

*Don Martin, Kay Martin*

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**Don Martin, Kay Martin : Hiking Marin: 141 Great Hikes in Marin County** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hiking Marin: 141 Great Hikes in Marin County:

20 of 20 people found the following review helpful. Third Time's a CharmBy Fritz R. WardI love the San Francisco Bay Area and try to get to that region as often as possible. Hiking, biking, and simply "getting away from it all" opportunities abound within minutes of one of the biggest metropolitan areas in the world. I can never decide if I like the Santa Cruz mountains in South Bay or Marin County more, but if you are looking for detailed trail descriptions of

the latter, the third edition of "Hiking Marin" is a good place to start. This book describes trails in some of the most popular sections of Marin County, including Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Point Reyes National Seashore, Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods. Hikes in many other less well known "Open Space" areas are also included. Although the title mentions 141 hikes, there are actually 168 trail walks described over seven sections of Marin County (chapters A-G in this guidebook) with two additional chapters (H and J) on new hiking opportunities since the first edition went to press in 1995. Nearly all 600 miles of trail in the county appear in one or more loop hikes of this book. Almost anyone can find a walk suited to their abilities within the confines of this guidebook. Detailed maps and route descriptions will help spare walkers the frustration of missing a key turnoff. So why does a book like this only get 4 stars? More for what it is missing than what it includes. Trail descriptions are heavy on routes and intersections, but natural and cultural history are essentially absent. Three hikes described in this book begin in Muir Woods National Monument, for example, but none describe the colorful history or biological importance of this stand of old growth forest. I find that information like this enhances my enjoyment of hiking. There are also very few photos. Finally, I found some technical problems with the "downloadable maps" that are new to this edition. The authors refer readers to their website where they can download any map or trail description from the book (with a password found at the beginning of each chapter). When I went to their site, however, my browser claimed the pages related to the book "could not be found." Hopefully this little glitch will be cleared up later. In the final analysis, if you are a Bay Area resident, this book will provide you with many hours of enjoyment. But if you are a tourist other guides to the region may be better. They may not have as comprehensive a selection, but pictures and a fuller discussion of local trails might make finding a good trail easier. Even so, this is a good guide to what's "out there" in Marin.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very Helpful Book! By Dina M. Youngi purchased this book to get some background for an upcoming trip to San Francisco and Marin County. I still haven't gone yet, but already the book is providing some greatly detailed information about where and when to hike and what to expect as far as difficulty of specific trails. There's a lot of good advice for out-of-towners in this book, which I doubt I would have found anywhere else. I'll definitely have this book in my backpack during my upcoming adventures along the Pacific Coast.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Truly the best hiking book of Marin County By Sherry Truly the best hiking book of Marin County! I have been using this hiking book since its first edition in the 90s to explore Marin County hikes. It is so well put together and detailed. Highly recommended!

Marin County has the finest urban park system in the world, with three national parks, six state parks, and 20 open space areas. Hiking Marin describes in detail 141 hikes, rated for both beauty and difficulty, through these scenic areas, from the shores of the Pacific Ocean to the awe-inspiring redwoods. Each hike notes mileage to each junction and attraction, and includes a 3-D shaded relief map showing roads, trails, features, and elevations. The book contains suggestions for seasonal hikes as well as appendices that describe plants, animals, and local resources.