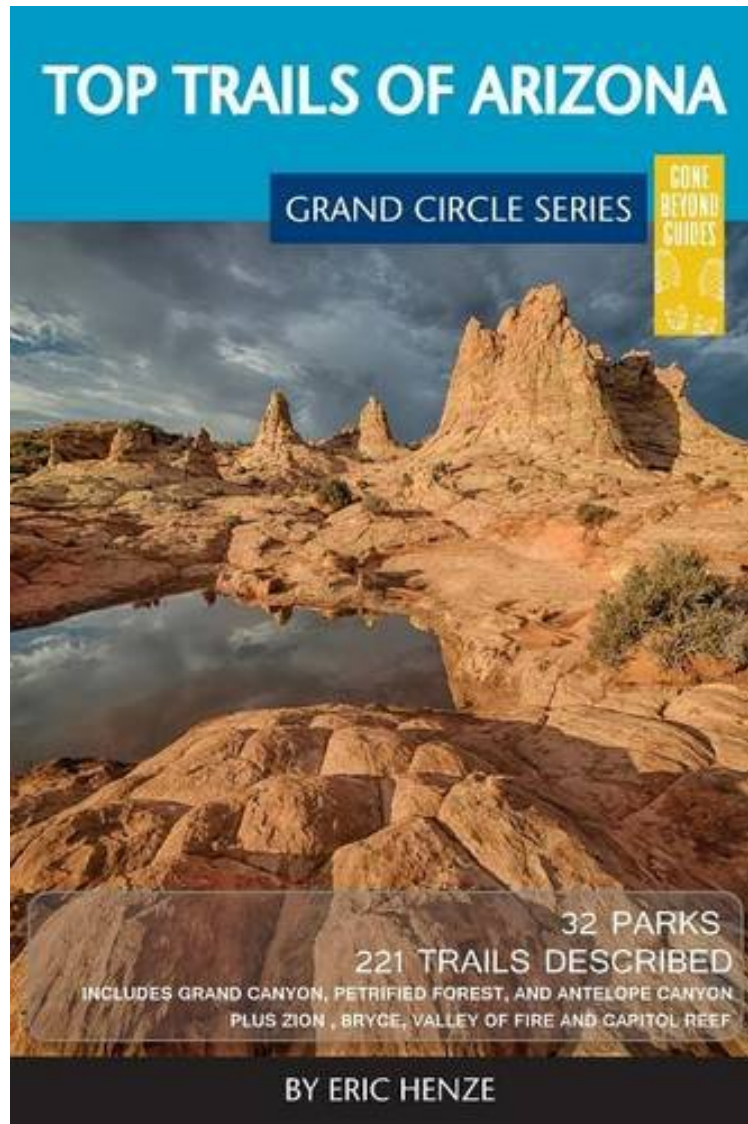


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## Top Trails of Arizona: Includes Grand Canyon, Petrified Forest, Monument Valley, Vermilion Cliffs, Havasu Falls, Antelope Canyon, and Slide Rock

*Eric Henze*

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**Eric Henze : Top Trails of Arizona: Includes Grand Canyon, Petrified Forest, Monument Valley, Vermilion Cliffs, Havasu Falls, Antelope Canyon, and Slide Rock** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Top Trails of Arizona: Includes Grand Canyon, Petrified Forest, Monument

Valley, Vermilion Cliffs, Havasu Falls, Antelope Canyon, and Slide Rock:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A Misleading Title for a Great Book By Fritz R. Ward I love hiking guides, and use them to plan my vacations, but this is not a hiking guide, or at least not entirely. And the title is somewhat misleading. It is not a listing of "top trails" in Arizona. Normally, this would result in a poor review from me, but I was very pleasantly surprised by this book. What it is is a travel guide to the Grand Circle, the national parks, monuments, historic sites, state and Navajo Parks of the Grand Circle. And it is both comprehensive and exciting. Simply put, I love this book and am already planning my Spring Break and June hikes for next year around its contents. Author Eric Henze essentially lists every park in northern Arizona, southern Utah, and eastern Nevada in this book, which is actually only part of the series. Since the title features the word "trails" so prominently in the title he does nicely cover the more popular trails in these regions as well as tell you where you can find some degree of solitude. (I loved the point the author belabored in the introduction though. If a guidebook is telling you about a "secret" place to escape crowds, then it's not secret. The way to escape crowds is to take long and rigorous hikes. But I personally find that's overrated anyway; a short and beautiful nature trail, even with lots of people, can still be very enjoyable.) But the book isn't just about hiking, and in many cases the trail descriptions vanish altogether. There are, after all, no trails to speak of at Four Corners, Hubbel Trading Post, etc. But this book is never really entirely about hiking anyway. Henze lists just about every recreational activity you can do at each location: rafting, fishing, photography, history exhibits. It is simply a cornucopia of information on what could easily be the trip (or trips) of a lifetime. Reading the book I discovered dozens of places I was barely aware of, and based on my experience, found very few places the author missed. (The only one that comes to mind in fact is Hualapai Mountain Park near Kingman. This is a worthwhile stop to see some classic Island Peak habitats.) In short, this book allows almost anyone, even the differently abled, to tailor an outdoor vacation to their desires and abilities. So why only 4 stars? This is clearly a 5 star book. The reason is the title misleads the casual reader looking for a book on hiking in Arizona. Only half the state is covered and if you are looking to hike throughout the state, you will miss the Phoenix Parks, Saguaro National Park near Tucson, Oregon Pipes National Monument, and much more. And it may miss the target audience. I purchased the book thinking it was a guide to Arizona, while in fact it only covered half the state. But what I got was so much better. I got a comprehensive travel guide to the parks of (much of) the Grand Circle. And what a pleasant surprise this was!

Top Trails of Arizona covers a full 32 parks and 221 trails within Arizona and nearby parks in Utah and Nevada! This guide covers every trail within every park in the area with full descriptions of each route, mileage, elevation gain, and trail difficulty. Amenities and directions are given for each park along with a description of what to see.

From the Inside Flap So you've been done an Arizona vacation, maybe even Colorado and Utah, but have you done the Grand Circle? You may have heard of the term and likely know it well if you live within it. For those that don't know what the Grand Circle means, you aren't alone. It is, in a nutshell, one of the "must do" vacation destinations in North America. The Grand Circle encompasses five southwestern states but more importantly, is so named because it contains the highest concentration of national and state parks in the United States. Within this 500-diameter area, there are almost 80 parks and hundreds of other attractions. Simply put, the Grand Circle is a bounty of fun and adventure. This isn't about going to Zion or the Grand Canyon, it's about going on a once in a lifetime vacation, something so incredible that it becomes one of the top things you have ever done. Top Trails of Arizona is part of our four book "Grand Circle Series", providing complete coverage of every trail in all parks within the Grand Circle! Top Trails of Arizona covers 32 parks and a healthy 221 hikes within an area of the Grand Circle. The book covers every park in the central and northern regions of Arizona and neighboring parks within Utah and Nevada. Each park contains information on camping, lodging, and food within the park as well as how to get there and nearest town. The book covers every trail in the park and details what makes the parks unique and worth a visit. From the spectacular depths of the Grand Canyon to Canyon de Chelly, the oldest inhabited place in North America, this book is the only book you will need to hike this spectacular area. Here are all of the parks covered: Northern Arizona Grand Canyon National Park - South Rim Grand Canyon National Park - North Rim Havasu Falls Canyon de Chelly National Monument Four Corners Monument Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park Navajo National Monument Antelope Canyon Vermilion Cliffs National Monument Pipe Spring National Monument Grand Canyon - Parashant National Monument Lake Mead National Recreation Area Central Arizona Petrified Forest National Park Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Park Tonto National Monument Agua Fria National Monument Montezuma Castle National Monument Tuzigoot National Monument Dead Horse Ranch State Park Red Rock State Park Slide Rock State Park Walnut Canyon National Monument Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument Wupatki National Monument Southern Utah Zion National Park Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park Snow Canyon State Park Bryce Canyon National Park Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Capitol Reef National Park Natural Bridges National Monument Goosenecks State Park Eastern Nevada Valley of Fire State Park