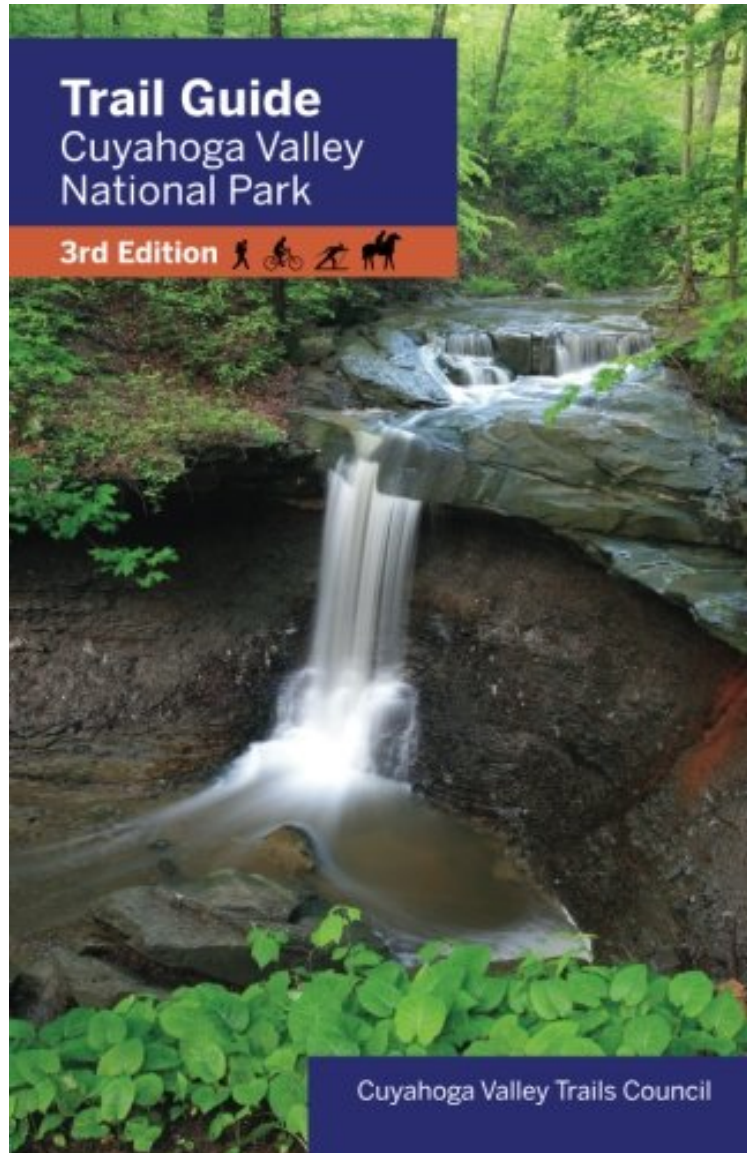


(Mobile book) Trail Guide to Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Trail Guide to Cuyahoga Valley National Park

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Cuyahoga Valley Trails Council : Trail Guide to Cuyahoga Valley National Park before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Trail Guide to Cuyahoga Valley National Park:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Encourages one to explore the parkBy toughcrowdFor many years my explorations of Cuyahoga National Park had pretty much been limited to bicycling the excellent towpath. On the few occasions when I had walked one of the many trails, I found their signage a bit sketchy, and the park maps too

crude to be of much help where the signs failed me. This book fills in some of those gaps, plus provides descriptions that motivate one to explore the park, help one to choose which trail to hike, and give some informative historical background on the trails and their surrounding terrain. It could be better, though. The drawn maps are only marginally better than enlargements of the near-useless park map. There usually isn't any explanation of major features of the terrain one encounters, like an abandoned bridge foundation I encountered in the middle of one trail, or an extensive series of clearings I found along another, or a long, double line of closely-planted trees that lined a section of a third trail. On a portion of the Buckeye Trail near Boston, only one of the falls is described, even though a well-traveled offshoot of the trail takes you to a second one that in its own way is just as dramatic. In sum, I have found the book helpful in encouraging me to hike the trails, but some readers will feel that it doesn't give enough for the money. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent resource By geeky I I am an avid hiker and felt some despair when I moved to this rather flat area of the country for work. When I found this gem of a park nearby I immediately purchased this book, and it has been my go-to source for weekend day hikes. There are some surprisingly moderate trails that can provide a decent workout, with the Buckeye trail sections being the most roller-coaster like and fun. It's really a beautiful park. Highly recommended. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. great guidebook By K. Blaine I bought the previous edition of this excellent guide several years ago and have used it a great deal. We live only a few feet from the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, and we take advantage of it frequently. I purchased this guide for my brother, who is an even better hiker than I am. The book has helpful information on each trail in the park, telling the length, elevation, and difficulty as well as interesting characteristics of each one. I highly recommend this guidebook.

The complete trail guide to Ohio's popular national park, written by people who know it best—the volunteers who help build and maintain its trails. Every trail in Cuyahoga Valley National Park is described in detail, with specifics for hikers, cyclists, skiers, and horseback riders. Featured are the historic Ohio Erie Canal Towpath, the Buckeye Trail, and favorite destinations such as Brandywine Gorge and Blue Hen Falls. You'll find many less-traveled trails, too, leading to hidden ponds, oak-canopied brooks, and quiet glades in all corners of the park. Background information about the plants, animals, geology, and human history of the Cuyahoga Valley will help make your visit to the park more enjoyable and more memorable. Easy-to-use maps help you plan and follow your route. This is a fine year-round guide for hikers of all abilities and great for bird watchers and other nature lovers, too.

Required reading for anyone thinking about lacing up a pair of hiking boots and keeping it local . . . Details every trail that falls within the national parks borders (including ones that are maintained by other park systems such as the Cleveland Metroparks) and packed with maps, photographs of significant landmarks and a handy index. (Jim Vickers Cleveland Magazine 2008-07-01) Whether you're an experienced backpacker or a casual cross-country skier, the third edition of the Cuyahoga Valley National Parks Trail Guide is a must. From maps detailing the length, difficulty and elevation change of a trail to maps, of the entire Cuyahoga Valley National Park, this trail guide is exhaustive in detail. (Lauren Krupar Maple Heights Press 2007-12-20) Northeast Ohioans love their trails and this book shows it. Good trail maps, detailed descriptions, photos, best of lists and historical information round out the information presented in this paperback that's just the right size to stow away in your day pack. (Get Out! 2008-08-20) A great resource for exploring one of Northeast Ohio's most beautiful parks. (Sandy Mitchell About.Com 2007-12-06) About the Author The Cuyahoga Valley Trails Council (CVTC) is a non-profit all-volunteer organization dedicated to building and maintaining trails in the Cuyahoga Valley. CVTC was formed in 1985 from the Ad Hoc Trails Committee of the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area (now named Cuyahoga Valley National Park) Advisory Commission just after the completion of the parks trail plan. Since its founding, CVTC has assisted Cuyahoga Valley National Park in implementing the trail plan by helping to build sections of new trail and maintain existing trails. The group holds monthly volunteer trail work sessions, helps coordinate the Adopt-A-Trail program, trains new volunteers, and encourages stewardship of the trail system. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. Ohio Erie Canal Towpath Trail On a clear, crisp afternoon in October of 1993, for the first time in over 80 years, a mule crossed over the Cuyahoga River in Peninsula just south of Lock 29 of the Ohio Erie Canal. The mule and his driver were followed by a procession of people, some in period costumes, some in park ranger uniforms; some walking, some riding bicycles. The event marked the official opening of almost twenty miles of the Ohio Erie Canal Towpath Trail. Today this popular multi-use trail is the heart of Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP), and it now continues outside the national park as part of the Ohio Erie National Heritage Canalway. Eventually the trail will be 101 miles long, connecting Cleveland, on Lake Erie, to New Philadelphia, on the Tuscarawas River. Within Cuyahoga Valley National Park you can access the Ohio Erie Canal Towpath Trail at any of eleven trailheads. The trail is designed for hiking, bicycling, and cross-country skiing and is graded and surfaced to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Some sections are also shared with equestrians. When planning your trip, you might also consider using the shuttle service offered by the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (800-468-4070; www.cvsr.com). A Quick Look Within the boundaries of Cuyahoga Valley National Park the Ohio Erie Canal Towpath Trail passes near the remnants

of a full range of canal-related structures including lift locks, aqueducts, feeder canals, and various weirs, sluices, overflows, gates, and other devices used to control water levels. (North of Station Road, where the canal is still watered, these water-control devices are still in use today). Your trip will take you past much of the valley's human history, such as the site of South Park Village, a Native American settlement dating to AD 1000; or Pilgerruh, site of the first known Moravian missionary settlement in the valley; plus a canal-era mill, farmsteads and fields in production since the 1800s, and historic homes in canal villages. National Park Service facilities along the way help interpret the valley's natural and human history: Canal Visitor Center introduces twelve thousand years of human history and development in the Cuyahoga Valley. The Boston Store tells the story of the canal through its boat builders and watermen. The Stephen and Mehitable Frazee House has exhibits on settlement, building construction, and the vernacular architecture in the region. Hunt Farm Visitor Information Center presents the life of the farming community. All along the Towpath Trail are numerous informational panels, or waysides, that will help you understand what you see and, in some cases, what you can no longer see. As you travel along the canal, the evolution of transportation in the valley is all around you. You parallel the first transportation route through the valley—the Cuyahoga River—and the one that put the canal out of business—the Valley Railway. The development of bridge engineering in transportation is evident from an 1882 wrought iron structure, to the graceful form of a 1931 concrete arch, to major interstate highway bridges whisking today's travelers from rim to rim across the valley. The Ohio Erie Canal Towpath Trail connects a large number of trails, facilities, and other points of interest. Among the many sites and attractions you will be able to reach, via back roads or connector trails are Hale Farm Village, Brandywine and Boston Mills Ski Resorts, Brandywine Falls, and Hostelling International's Stanford Hostel. Along the way you might see deer, coyote, beavers, great blue herons, or even a wild turkey. In spring, look for woodland wildflowers, such as spring beauties and trout lilies; in summer look for the purple and white dames rocket. Fall is the time for the yellow of wingstem and the purples of joe-pye weed, ironweed, and asters; and winter brings the muted colors of dried goldenrods and grasses. Things to Keep in Mind Sandstone mileposts along the trail mark the approximate location of the original mileposts as recorded on earlier survey maps. These mileposts measured miles from the beginning of the canal near the mouth of the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland's industrial flats. The original mileposts were determined using the chain and link method. Washouts and other changes over the years necessitated rerouting some parts of the historic towpath when the trail was constructed. As a result, the distance between mileposts is not always 5,280 feet. Canal locks were always numbered starting from the high point, increasing in the direction of the flow of the water. Hence, lock numbers within the park increase as the canal heads north, or downstream. The Ohio Erie Canal Towpath Trail is a very popular trail, with 1.5 million visits per year. Less busy times include weekdays, before noon on weekends, and days with less than ideal weather. Remember, it is a shared trail used by hikers and bicyclists and by visitors of varying ages and abilities. Some short sections are also open to horse and rider. A few tips will help make your trip on the Ohio Erie Canal Towpath Trail safe and enjoyable. All are based on the golden rule of a shared trail: be courteous. Travel at a safe speed. Adjust your speed to match traffic flow. Keep to the right except to pass others. Give a clear warning before passing on the left. Everyone yields to horses. If you need to pass, make sure the rider knows in advance that you are passing. Be especially cautious, as horses can be startled by sudden movements or sounds. Travel single file when passing or being passed. Park regulations require that pets be kept on a short (six-foot or less) leash. Move completely off the trail when stopped. Back to the Future The 1996 legislation designating the Ohio Erie National Heritage Canalway has enabled the parks neighboring cities, counties, and park districts to extend the Towpath Trail north into Cleveland and south through Akron and Massillon into New Philadelphia. Seventy-five percent of the trail is completed, and progress continues on the remaining twenty-five percent. When the trail is finished, you can start in Cleveland and along the route be able to sample food in the ethnic neighborhoods, visit restored historic sites, and rest in small towns and villages. You will pass through a variety of preserved natural areas—forests, wetlands, open fields, and stream corridors. Using connector trails or side roads, you can catch a baseball game, visit an indoor rain forest, or explore a world-class art museum. Yesterday we wrote about the Towpath Trail yet to be. Today we write of a national heritage canalway that will extend the Towpath Trail from New Philadelphia to Cleveland and connect the region and its people through their shared natural, cultural, industrial, and recreational heritage. For more information on this project, visit the Web site of the Ohio Erie Canalway Association at: www.ohioandieriecanalway.com. [Excerpted from Trail Guide to Cuyahoga Valley National Park 3rd Edition, Cuyahoga Valley Trails Council. All rights reserved. Gray Company, Publishers.]