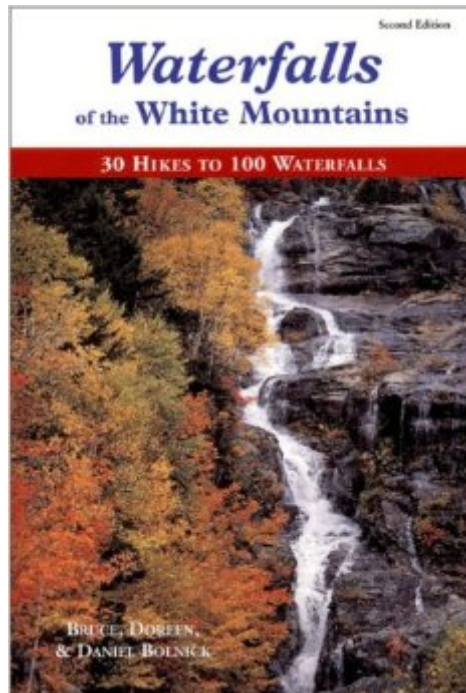


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Waterfalls Of The White Mountains: 30 Hikes To 100 Waterfalls



Synopsis

This guide to over 100 waterfalls in the White Mountains of New Hampshire tells the best times of year and vantage points from which to view them, and also gives suggestions for further hikes, swimming holes, and uncrowded picnic spots. Excursions range in length from a short stroll from the car to a hike of nearly 20 miles across the Presidential Range. Each chapter includes complete hiking information: distance, difficulty, altitude gain, and trail directions; as well as a map, essays on local history and lore.

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Customer Reviews

To my thinking there is not much more thrilling than turning a corner to find a spectacular and beautiful rush of water cascading over cliffs or through a rocky terrain. Who doesn't like waterfalls?! This terrific guide to the waterfalls of New Hampshire's White Mountains details 30 hikes to 100 waterfalls, so many of the walks take you to several falls. A regional map pinpoints the thirty treks and a lengthy introduction relates waterfall nomenclature and origins, tells you how to use the book and offers tips to make your trip enjoyable. Detailed within four subregions (the Connecticut, Pemigewasset/Merrimack, Saco and Androscoggin watersheds), entries are 6-10 pages long and include location, distance, altitude gain, difficulty, access information, a map, trail and hike details, and a photograph of the falls. An indispensable guide for waterfall lovers, particularly those travelling with kids. The book concludes with appendices on regional geology and camping facilities, a bibliography and an index.

I am an avid hiker of the Appalachian Mountains from the Carolinas to Maine. As such, I have purchased my share of guidebooks. Without a doubt in my mind, this is the best guidebook ever published. It reads more like a novel. I live in both Florida and New Hampshire and I find myself picking up this book to read for pleasure when I'm in Florida, 1000's of miles from the White Mountains. This book is efficient. As the title suggests, one can cover 100 waterfalls in 30 hikes, most of which are not very grueling. The book describes the waterfalls in detail but reads like a novel. It uses descriptions from early guidebooks as well, some over 100 years old! The directions to the waterfalls are clear and well written and include vital statistics like distance to each, vertical elevation gained, difficulty and altitude. A sketch map is shown for each hike (although one would use a separate topographic map for the actual hike). In addition, and I think this really separates this from other guides, a history is included for each hike of the area. These histories include Indian stories predating European settlement, stories of the early European settlements, the first grand hotels and even ski resorts. It truly gives the reader/hiker a sense of time and place. If you hike the White Mountains get this book!

This book inspired one of the best vacations I've taken (while closest to home!) exploring the waterfalls of NH. The directions and descriptions are accurate and easy to follow, and the falls themselves are exquisite--even in dry August weather, when we saw them. This will be a gift to friends, to be sure. Experienced hikers will appreciate it, but it's suitable for beginners. Not many geriatric hikes, however.

The content of this guide is excellent, minus a few minor details such as river depth when crossings are required (rapids during the spring melt, a trickling stream in the summer/fall months). The maps however are my biggest issue. They're about as detailed as a hand drawn sketch and without a legend really (obtain a true trail map to accommodate you and the guide). You'll have to pay close attention while reading for small details that could make or break the trip. All in all, still a good read. Absolutely worth having whether you're an overnighter or a one hour to kill kinda guy/gal. Hikes for all ages and skill levels.

Who doesn't love waterfalls? New Hampshire has beautiful scenery coupled with waterfalls. This is well written and entertaining. The White Mountains are beautiful even if you don't want to track down every waterfall that you can. I recommend this book.

This is one of the best hiking guides written, and is certainly the definitive guide to the magical waterfalls of the White Mountains. "Here," promises the Forward, "are all the cascading torrents, the forest-bound rills, the well-known tourist attractions, and the often overlooked gems." This book not only takes you to all of those gems, it does so with clarity, with poetry, and with such entertaining background information that you will enjoy leafing through its pages whether you are making your way up the side of Mount Washington or sitting in an office in the heart of Manhattan. Each waterfall, from Beaver Brook to the intriguingly named Sphinx Cascades, comes with a striking photo. A detailed hiking map is included for each fall, as well as a precise description of how to get there. (You definitely won't get lost.) Distances, location and elevation are also given. Most useful of all, the hike is rated in terms of difficulty, which is very convenient for those traveling with children. A short introduction gives useful hiking and swimming information, photography tips, weather considerations, an interesting explanation of the origins of the waterfalls, and even "waterfall moods." At the back of the book, several useful appendices provide campground information, bedrock geology and nearby trips. There is also a detailed index. As a hiking guide, I found this book to be indispensable. As a reminder of those enchanting cascades during the dead months of winter, it was inspirational.

take the DIFFICULTY description with a grain of salt if you are not an everyday hiker. We went to Ripley Falls and yes it IS all of (if not more) a 20 minute hike on a path with tree roots, some rocks to climb up and over, in some places it gets so narrow you are on the edge of a deep ledge and on an incline, THEN you get to repeat going back down. Though once you get to the Falls it is Beautiful. I think maybe some work needs to be done to this path alone, because we did visit others that seemed to be kept up very well. I will say it was an ADVENTURE! and I don't regret it.

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