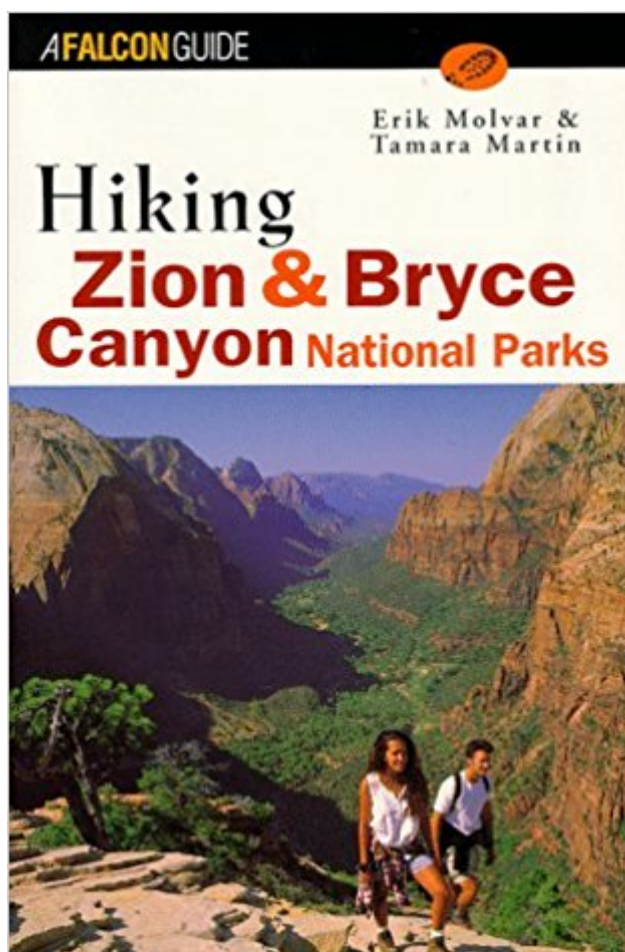




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Hiking Zion And Bryce Canyon National Parks (Regional Hiking Series)



Synopsis

Fifty-six hikes in two national parks in southwestern Utah.

Book Information

Series: Regional Hiking Series

Paperback: 246 pages

Publisher: FalconGuides; 1st edition (March 1, 1997)

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 24 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

A good guide provides more than just trail descriptions and a glance at an area's history. Erik Molvar takes that extra step, including sections on "Hiking in Arid Climates," "Following a Faint Trail," and "Avoiding a Narrow Canyon's Flash Flood," important topics considering the canyon land's unique terrain. After preparing his readers for their visit with directions and advice on obtaining park permits, Molvar gives descriptions of 56 hikes through areas such as the Kolob Terrace, Cedar Breaks, and the Markagunt High Country. Molvar's extensive experience is evident, and, given the area's special demands, his advice should prove valuable. --Benjamin Tiffany

Covering 56 hikes in the two featured parks as well as the surrounding areas--Cedar Breaks National Monument, the Markagunt high country, and the Paunsaugunt area, this book allows you to enjoy the wondrous landscape of timbered plateaus, windy precipices, erosion-carved spires, and canyon oases that defy comparison and are haven for many animals and unique plants. Trail descriptions, maps, and photos provide first-hand information for easy day hikes and extended backpack trips. In addition to interesting natural history overviews, tips for obtaining park permits and no-trace camping and safety techniques will help you plan and enjoy your trips. Don't forget

to pack this book before you head out on your next backcountry adventure.

Falcon Hiking Guides are generally fairly comprehensive guides to the region they cover. Beautiful, with lots of color plates and detailed maps, these books are generally the definitive guides to a region, from which shorter books like the Best Easy Day Hike series are often drawn. I love these book for their texture, production, and for the routes they list, and this one is no exception. It offers everything from short walks of a mile to scenic overlooks, to long multi day backpack trips. It also suggests several routes which might more accurately be considered canyoneering than hiking proper. Not all hikers will be able to use all the routes described in this volume, but they certainly sound exciting. Not surprisingly, the vast majority of the 60 routes described in this book are in Zion and Bryce proper. Two hikes south of Zion, 5 hikes in and around Cedar Breaks, a fabulous National Monument in its own right, and 7 hikes near Bryce in Paunsaugunt county round out the book. Most of the hikes are in Zion, and a surprising number of these are off the beaten track. I've been to Zion on many occasions and was completely unaware of the backcountry route along Deep Creek to its confluence with the Virgin River. At 28 plus miles, this seems like a spectacular route, though I'm pretty convinced my wife would not join me on it. Similarly, I am willing to bet relatively few people visit Wildcat Canyon or Cable Mountain compared to the more popular hikes within the valley. Bryce is also well represented though. From popular hikes like the Navajo Loop and the Rim Trail to the far more challenging Under the Rim Trail, you can find just about every trail in Bryce here. I did have a few questions about the text however. I'm not sure why the authors did not include the loop at the end of the Watchman trail in their route description or mileage for the trail. This changes the mileage from 2 to 3.2 miles, but adds little in the way of effort since the loop is atop a mesa and offers great views of Zion. Similarly, I'm not sure why some miles are out and back, but other hike descriptions list miles one way. And I really don't understand why the Queen's Garden route is listed as a one way hike when it can easily be made into one of the most spectacular 3 mile loop hikes in the western US. I docked the book a star on my review for these cavils, but it is still a great guidebook, and does what one hopes for in a Falcon Guide: introduces the reader to some of the best hikes in a given area, and including some of the less popular and least traveled routes in these heavily visited parks. Colorful photos, detailed maps, and elevation profiles add to the ease of use for this book, and like most Falcon Guides of its type, this one comes highly recommended.

Excellent guide to trails of various lengths in Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks. I used this guide book extensively in planning this summers Southern Utah hiking trip with my 18 year old son.

We got a lot out of both Zion and Bryce Canyon as day hikers thanks to this guide. Highly recommended as a planning tool for trail selection. The book is well organized and the trails are described well with needed information including length, elevation gain, time estimates and of course verbiage of what the hike is like.

A disappointment! I hiked several trails in this book and the milage is definitely off. For instance angels landing is supposedly 4.4 miles according to this book but nope its actually 5 miles. Book says that hike takes 2 hours. Im an ultra hiker and walk fast and it took me 3 hours. Are you serious that a 5 mile hike with 1500 feet of elevation gain while fighting myriads of people will only take you two hours!The book is also lack-luster and uninspiring. They writers provide the facts but you dont feel like you get the insiders recommendation you are looking for. How about best hike for mountain top views, wildflowers etc. Pick up another book and spend the extra money because this is not the helpful guide i was looking for.

Great book! If you are looking to do some hiking in Zion and Bryce, this is the best book! Full description of each hike along with a map and elevation chart. This book focuses on the two parks instead of throwing all the southern Utah parks together like other books. If you want information about hotels or restaurants, get the Lonely Planet or Moon books, for pure hiking there is no better than Falcon!

There are some pretty popular Zion hikes that this book seems to omit, so that is disappointing, but it is a good guide to most of the hikes.

A decent book, but like most Falcon guides, it's pretty basic in it's information compared with other trail guides about the same area.

great book. I can always trust this series

Great to have. Helped us a lot to decide which things to prioritize as we were limited on our time on our vacation.

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