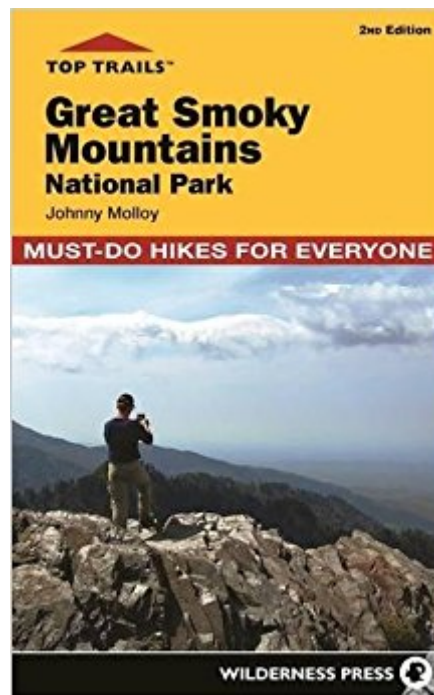




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# Top Trails: Great Smoky Mountains National Park: 50 Must-Do Hikes For Everyone



## Synopsis

Hike, backpack, bring the kids—there's a trail for you. With its secluded mountain waterways, awe-inspiring views from grassy balds, diverse plant and animal life, and impressive stands of old-growth forest, Great Smoky Mountains National Park offers an overwhelming number of outdoor adventures. *Top Trails: Great Smoky Mountains National Park* describes both the park's classic destinations and lesser-known jewels in 50 must-do hikes. The trails range from an easy family stroll to a 7-mile trek through spruce forest atop a peaceful ridge to a panoramic 22-mile overnighter. Each entry in the book includes clear and concise directions, a detailed route map and elevation profile, "don't get lost" milestones, and expert trail commentary. Johnny Molloy, who has spent more than 800 nights backpacking in the Smokies, has updated this classic guide. The revised edition includes the new backcountry reservation system implemented in the park, as well as some excellent new hikes. Johnny—who considers the Smokies his home stomping ground—makes sure that all the necessary information to help you execute a hike (from directions to maps) is correct. So this guide helps you leave the roads to explore the heart of the park. Whether you're looking for a scenic stroll to stretch your legs, a full-day adventure, or a rewarding backpacking trip, you'll find it here.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Molloy offers expert guidance to getting the most of this 800 square miles park." -- WNC Magazine, June 2012  
"Top Trails: Great Smoky Mountains National Park incorporates the most accurate and

detailed route descriptions along with easy-to-read charts that summarize key features of each hike." -- Knoxville News Sentinel, May 2012 --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Johnny Molloy is an outdoors writer who averages more than 100 nights in the wild per year, backpacking throughout the U.S. He has written more than 30 outdoors guidebooks and articles for magazines and websites. Visit him on the Web at [johnnymolloy.com](http://johnnymolloy.com). He lives in Johnson City, TN.

This book was a great help to us! We recently took a family trip and wanted to do longer day hikes, 2-3 hours and 4-6 miles and wanted to be sure that a 7 year old could keep up. We found the detailed descriptions in this book to be extremely helpful! and we enjoyed several hikes that we probably wouldn't have known about or would have been intimidated to try based on some of the small descriptions in the official National Park guides. Our bigger hikes were the Alum Cave Bluff hike and Cucumber Gap/Little River Trail, and we enjoyed them a lot. We also did some smaller trails and drives in the park. As much as I liked this book, I would advise anyone to stop in one of the National Park Visitor's Centers and buy their excellent trail maps for about \$1 each--as we planned each day, we use the NPS guides to find the area we wanted to go to, get a general idea of hikes available, then we used this book to read more about it. Between these two sources and some websites, you can put together appropriate hikes for your situation, I think-- When we visit another National Park, I will look for more guides by this company.

This is a "must have" book. You can spend several weeks on the internet trying to find all these hikes; or yes; it is all summarized in this book. What I liked was it was in summarized and then detailed. You can find the hike in miles; time; length and many other ways. Just a great overall book. Nice size. . Great to have while at the Nat. Park. My goal; go on each one. . . and there is room along the side to write notes.

I'm a day hiker. I really liked the format: The key was the summary table of hikes at the beginning of book that listed the more important attributes of each hike for easy selection (Distance, difficulty, type, use & access, terrain, etc). You can "look inside!" beginning of book to see what I mean. The full hike descriptions themselves have all usual information.

This is my second top trails guide. I also own their zion book. I have to say I love this as a reference.

The small detail maps are pretty accurate, making it simple to find them on my bigger map. I love the breakdowns of the trails. It makes decoding on a specific trails so much easier. Especially since I usually have only a few days in a park. This lets me pick exactly the type of trails I want. Peaks, solitude, autumn colors? Check! The graph makes all of these and more indicators easy to sift thru.

Nice that it includes elevation profiles. I also bought the Falcon Guide as I like to compare and contrast several sources when selecting and planning hikes. We just returned from a great week of day hiking GSMNP and this book (along with Internet sites) was much more helpful than the Falcon guide.

Terrific up to date detailed information hiking within Smoky Mountain National Park. Has detailed routes while some of the hiking trails are closed. Smoke damage and detours listed from 2016 devastating fire

Perfect trail book for the Smokies. We took this along on vacation and it fit easily in hand or the backpack. Trail descriptions were good and maps were clear and well marked. We will be using this guide on future trips to the park. A fair number of hikes with varying distances and in different locations in the park are included.

Great detail for many trails. I wish I had bought the actual book instead of a kindle version.

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