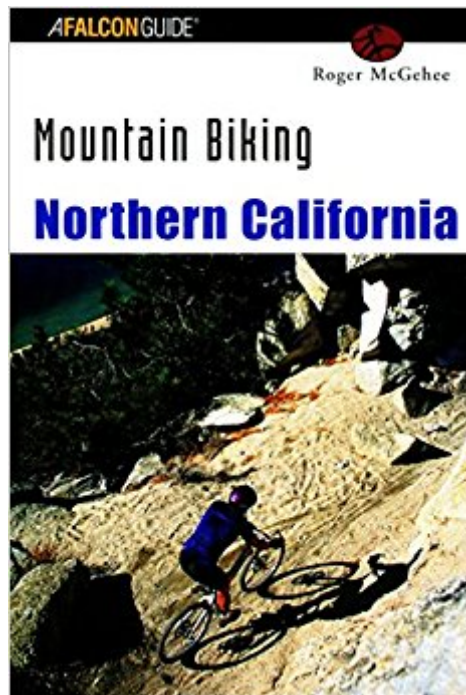




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Mountain Biking Northern California (Regional Mountain Biking Series)



Synopsis

Looking for scenic singletrack? Look no further than Mountain biking Northern California. Roger McGehee spent years searching for the best trails in the northern half of the state. His discoveries are presented here in this comprehensive guide to more than 80 rides. Roger McGehee worked as a field naturalist for fifteen years for the National Park Service and for the Yosemite Institute in Yosemite National Park. He currently lives in Marin County, where he is a science teacher. He spends his spare time exploring mountain biking trails throughout northern California.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Mountain bikers, beginner to expert, all share a common need - a place to ride. Mountain Biking Northern California gives fat-tire enthusiasts the skinny on where to go. Here are sixty-seven of the best rides in Northern California, including coastal loops from Monterey to the Oregon border and mountain trails of the southern Cascades and the Sierra Nevada. Take your pick from scenic road routes, hot singletracks, lung-popping climbs, and demented downhills. Detailed ride descriptions make it easy to find the trailheads and follow the routes. You stay on track with accurate distances keyed to easy-to-read maps and ratings for physical and technical difficulty. This handy guide will help you choose a ride that's appropriate for your fitness and skill levels. It's an indispensable companion for all your fat-tire fun. (6 X 9, 312 pages, b&w photos, maps, charts)

McGehee worked as a field naturalist for 15 years for the national Park Service and for Yosemite Institute in Yosemite National Park. He is currently a science teacher.

The directions were detailed but knowing northern California well, I was looking for some more obscure rides. But overall, the book is well written and covers a large area. Includes enough trails to keep you busy for a few seasons.

I bought this (as well as a few others) for an extended riding trip to the area. No one trail book ever has it all, but I found this very useful.

Of the three major mountain biking guides that cover Northern California the Falcon Guide is my favorite. Despite having fewer rides (67 versus the other two which each have a hundred) the trail information is presented in such a way to allow for efficient trail selection and detailed understanding of the trail's difficulty. Each ride is accompanied by a map depicting where in CA it is, a helpful schematic of the trail and an elevation profile of the ride. The book's best feature is that each trail does not get a single difficulty score, but the elevation profile is broken up into sections that are each assigned a difficulty category (from 1 to 5). The rides tend to be on the intermediate to advanced side (though some good beginner single track is included) and there are no paved or easy rides (which the other two books include). To date I have found the trailhead directions and trail descriptions to be accurate and lively.

I think a lot of these guide books try to throw a bunch of trails in so they can either say they have more trails than the next book or be "the complete guide" to whatever. That is lame. The author doesn't try and write a book that is all things to all people. Looking for a trail to take your out-of-shape dad on when he comes to California to visit? Look elsewhere. This is a book written by an avid mountain biker for avid mountain bikers. It is a comprehensive guide to the trails that mountain bikers want to ride in Northern California, all the trails are primarily single track rides. The book is well written too. It has all the info you need for each ride clearly presented.

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