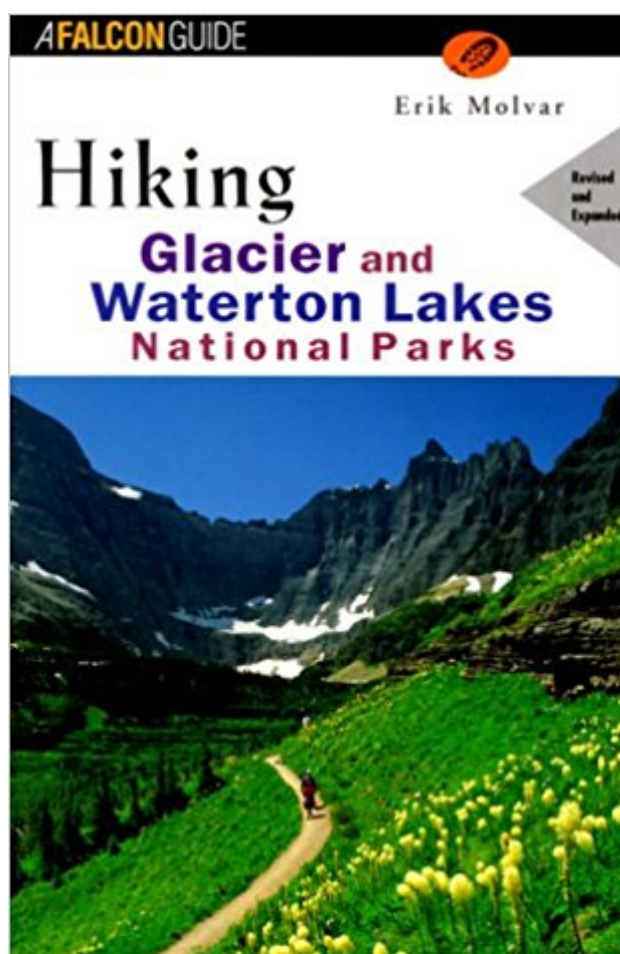


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Hiking Glacier And Waterton Lakes National Parks (rev) (Regional Hiking Series)



Synopsis

This comprehensive guide covers more than 850 miles of trails.

Book Information

Series: Regional Hiking Series

Paperback: 232 pages

Publisher: FalconGuides; 2nd edition (May 1, 1999)

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Customer Reviews

Completely revised and updated, this guide features more than 850 miles of trails for discovering Glacier and Waterton Lakes. It also includes every trail in both parks and takes hikers to glistening glaciers, scenic lookouts, peaceful lakes, and remote wilderness using easy-to-follow instructions and maps.

Erik Molvar discovered backpacking while working on a volunteer trail crew in the North Cascades of Washington. A newfound taste for the wilderness experience inspired him to choose a career in the outdoors, and he soon found himself at the University of Montana pursuing a bachelor's degree in wildlife biology. Montana's craggy ranges were to be his weekend playground for the next five years, and two summers of bartending at Lake McDonald Lodge gave Erik the perfect opportunity to fully explore Glacier National Park's backcountry. An adventurous spirit has led Erik to embark upon backpacking expeditions throughout the Rocky Mountains, the Great Basin, western Canada, and Alaska. While writing this book, Erik was studying moose behavior in Alaska on the way to a master's degree. He now lives in Big Sky, Montana.²⁰ Matthew Cutler grew up pursuing trout and elk in the high country of his native Utah. An inborn taste for the outdoors and the call of unspoiled wilderness lured Matt to Glacier as a seasonal concessions worker. Matt's peak-bagging talents and

native good humor have added immeasurably to the experiences of his backcountry companions through the years.

I bought a used copy of this book to plan out potential backpacking routes for a summer trip to Glacier. The book is mainly aimed at day-hikers, but you can pretty easily string together the day hikes for a longer backpacking trip, or just use the book to read up on the trail segments you've already identified. The pictures are black and white and not very clear, but there is a very helpful table rating the different backcountry campgrounds, and it gives you elevation and mileage profiles for the different legs. If you go, you'll want to buy National Geographic's Trails Illustrated map ("Glacier and Waterton Lakes") to be your nuts-and-bolts reference. But the book is a great help.

VERY INFORMATIVE!!!

The book came as planned. Appears to be complete with good hike information on each and it covers all areas of the park.

This book is a great guide for planning backpacking trips in Glacier Park. Don't purchase the 3rd edition, though! They've left out the valuable elevation profile charts that the revised edition contains.

Written in the familiar Falcon Guide format with elevation profiles of hikes, but otherwise pretty bland. Vicky Spring's recreation guide to the park (from The Mountaineers series) is much better.

This is a must have for any hiker in Glacier National Park. We used it extensively while hiking in Glacier on a photographic expedition for our Glacier Hiking website. The descriptions give you the information you need to plan your trip. Bob@bobulrich.com

Why is it that such a spectacular hiking location has so little documentation? Are there really only a couple viable guide books? Well, we selected this one, and while not our favorite format, it passed a fairly difficult pragmatic test. With 2/3 of the park closed due to fire we were still able to select outstanding hikes and make good comparative decisions with this book and a topo. The descriptions of the hikes are very good, the maps aren't bad (ridges are shaded and glaciers hatched, no topos) and the profiles (e.g. mileage vs elevation plots) provide very important

information for a park where vertical gain is one of the central attractions and ridges must be traversed for nearly any destination. Photos are sparse and do not help as much as one would like with trail selection (few shots of destinations or views left me saying - 'I have to see that, it will be well worth the 16 miles' - which is what I want from hiking guide photos) but on the whole this is a very serviceable book that was the primary guide to our great Glacier experience.

A wealth of information is contained in this book. Every trail, from short walks to goat trails, are mentioned, many in extreme detail, including key points along the trail, elevation loss and gain, maximum elevations, a difficulty rating, and even the appropriate topo map for that region. Wonderful narratives explain the highlights, and the occasional lowlight, of each trail from beginning to end. I especially liked the backcountry camp guide included, listing the scenic value of each site, as well as other useful information about like the number of available sites. My only major complaint is the lack of "canned" extended trips. Only 4 extended trips are mentioned. But armed with this book, a map of the park, and a little persistence, you can carve out a path that will fit your hiking level, and enjoyment requirements.

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