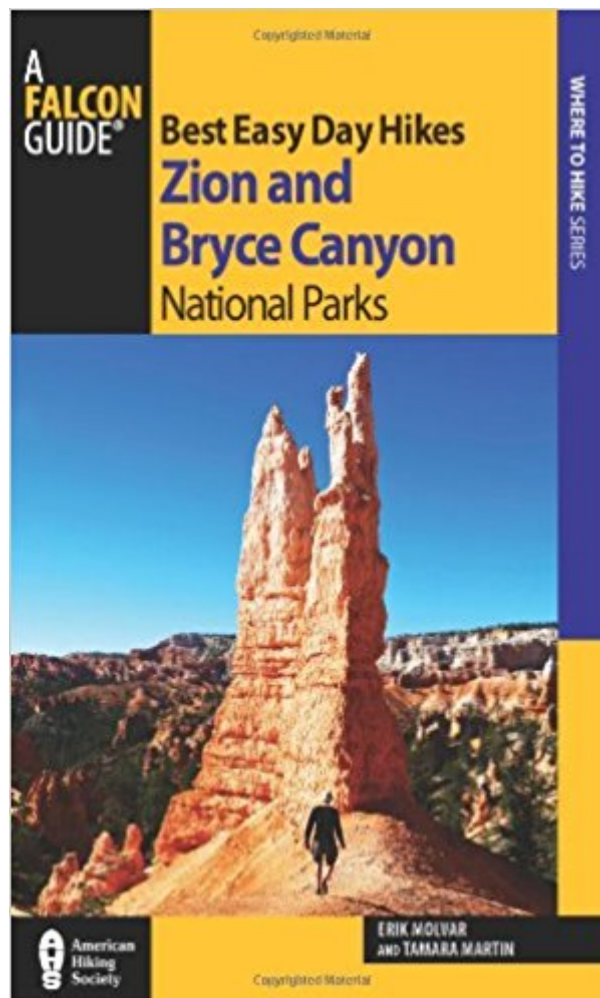




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Best Easy Day Hikes Zion And Bryce Canyon National Parks (Best Easy Day Hikes Series)



Synopsis

The best day hikes in Zion and Bryce National Parks, including maps and mile-by-mile hike descriptions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Now completely updated and revised, the new edition of *Best Easy Day Hikes Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks* features concise descriptions and easy-to-follow maps for twenty-two easily manageable hikes. Eric Molvar and Tamara Martin describe the best routes for those who have limited time or abilities, without missing out on the area's scenic splendors. Look inside for: Half-hour strolls to full-day adventures Hikes for everyone, including families Hikes ranked from easiest to more challenging GPS coordinates for trailheads

Veteran author and backcountry explorer Erik Molvar discovered backpacking while working on a volunteer trails crew in the North Cascades of Washington. He is the author of more than a dozen FalconGuides for such places as Glacier National Park, the Bob Marshall Wilderness, Olympic National Park, Zion and Bryce Canyon National Park, as well as Colorado's Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness.

Seven years ago Erik Molvar and Tamara Martin wrote the first *Best Easy Day Hikes Guide to Zion*

and Bryce National Parks. There are not a lot of changes between the two books, and a few opportunities for changes were missed by the authors. I love Zion and Bryce, and any hike in these regions will be good. A few of the routes and editorial decisions, however, could be better. This volume says Zion and Bryce on the cover, but covers much more. Readers will also learn about Cedar Breaks, an often overlooked National Monument, but one of my favorite vista points in the entire state. An additional chapter, "Hidden Treasures of Pansaugunt County" lists several hikes on BLM land which are nearly as scenic, and far more isolated than hikes in the nearby parks, and have the additional benefit of allowing your dog on the trails. On the other hand, the new book has some strange organization and omissions. The authors include a few point to point hikes, and understandably give mileage as a one way figure for these hikes. But in other places, mileage is sometimes listed as one way, sometimes round trip, and this even when the trail is an obvious out and back route. Thus Angel's Landing is listed as a round trip hike of 4.4 miles, but Northgate Peaks is listed as a one way hike of 2.2 mile. (?) Yet no matter which hike you do, you will have to return, and both trails are clearly 4.4 miles. This is hardly the only instance of inconsistency in presenting miles for a trip. Queens Garden is listed as a one way trip in the Bryce section of the book, but it is clearly either an out and back, or better yet, a loop hike option. And then there are some rather curious omissions. I'm not sure why, in a book devoted to easy day hikes, the Riverside Walk at the end Zion Canyon was left out. Nor do I understand why the authors neglected to mention that the shuttle system in Zion does not run year round. The decision to end the Watchman route at the start of the Mesa loop, instead of including it, also puzzled me. (The hike goes from 2 to 3.2 miles with the addition of the loop, but the loop itself is easy and relatively level. The "hard" part of the hike is the route up to and back from the mesa the loop circles.) On the other hand, the introduction includes a lot of information about cross country route finding that seems out of place in a book of this type. I'm also not sure that some of the routes from more obscure trail heads are appropriate to a book that targets an audience who wants short and pleasant day hikes. As anyone who has driven a bumpy 4wd drive route in Utah knows, even an easy hike can become quite difficult before you step out of the car. But even with these concerns, I still think this is a decent book. Readers will certainly find quick access to the highlights of these parks, which in Bryce include the aforementioned Queen's Garden and the Navajo loop trail. In Zion, you will find the beautiful Emerald Pools, as well as some nice lightly traveled routes along the Virgin river. And the inclusion of additional material in and around these hikes deserves praise. In all, this is a worthwhile supplement if you plan to visit these two parks. If you are doing the Grand Circle of Utah Parks, however, I would recommend the 50 Best Short Hikes: Utah's National Parks, 2nd edition as an

alternative.

A little small & little information...however...information given will be helpful in our summer travels.

Good orientation info for someone who has not been there previously. It's a start point for planning hikes for a short visit.

a modest tome, maps quite poor [only sketch maps], but descriptions quite good. An inexpensive tome, proving you get what you pay for. Not bad at the price. Serious hikers will need maps too. Non serious hikers, i discovered, dont need maps or this volume.

These hikes are wonderful. We found everything to be accurate - if the book said a trail was quiet and not crowded, it was.If they rated the view as spectacular (or mediocre, or whatever), it was. The relative ratings for difficulty were spot-on. Same goes for "best easy day hikes - grand canyon." Will definitely buy the books in this series for all future hiking trips to the national parks.

Skinny booklet. The information is nothing that can't be obtained at the Zion Park information booth. The reason I was disappointed at a two-star level is the price does not match the content. I felt a bit ripped off.

The recommended difficulty this book uses does not match the difficulty in the Parks literature.

Great format, straight forward descriptions providing the basic information needed to determine if a day hike is desirable. This books weighs next to nothing - a no brainer in a hiking backpack. Low cost is nice, too. Thumbs up.

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