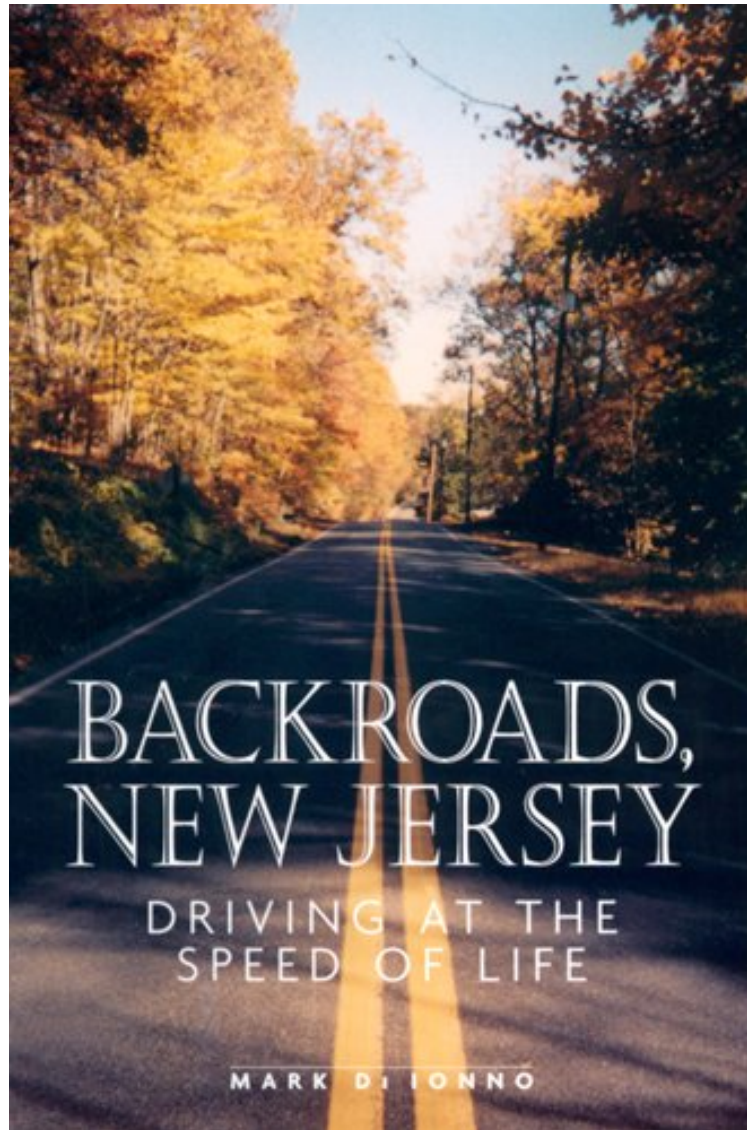


[E-BOOK] Backroads, New Jersey: Driving at the Speed of Life

Backroads, New Jersey: Driving at the Speed of Life

Mark Di Ionno

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Mark Di Ionno : Backroads, New Jersey: Driving at the Speed of Life before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Backroads, New Jersey: Driving at the Speed of Life:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Up for an adventure in NJ? This will help you find one! By Catherin A. Gumpert Chen Star-Ledger columnist Mark Di Ionno's most recent book is also his most personal. It is an idiosyncratic look at the 500-series secondary, inter-county roads of New Jersey. Part travelogue, part geology and geography lesson, and always engaging, it will inspire you to fill the gas tank, find some cruising music, and wander the byways of this varied, fascinating state, to explore and seek out the daily adventures that are awaiting us all, if we

just pay attention. Di Ionno, in a spring 2009 column about one of his boyhood idols, Star-Ledger sportswriter emeritus Jerry Izenberg, wrote these words: Like many of you, I grew up reading Jerry Izenberg, so I knew him long before I met him. This is the greatest compliment you can pay a writer. Jerry's writing voice is natural and honest. It tells you who he is. He writes like he talks, minus the swear words. When you are done reading this book, you will realize that these words also apply to Di Ionno himself - you too will know him, even if you never have the privilege of meeting him in the flesh.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I think it is a great read

By CustomerI am 67 years old and have lived in NJ all of those years. I love traveling and visiting historical places. This book contains a great deal of knowledge about NJ, its history, and the beautiful back roads. I have ridden many of them on my motorcycle, but after having read this book, will have a new perspective. It covers the county roads (CR 500 series). He puts just enough of his personal experiences to make the book a more interesting read. Having read the book, I will spend more time enjoying the historical significance of the places, towns, and scenery of this state.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic book

By MBHKIf you love NJ and are fascinated by it, this is a great book. I'm surprised it's not more well known or easily found in more book stores. This is a great tour guide of our state with lots of interesting routes to follow. NJ is uniquely American and those of us who live here should be more proud and protective of our heritage and history. This book reminded me of all the quirky, cool and fabulous things about us. It's a great back roads tour guide for a state where, in about an hour, you can go from mountain to ocean, city to farm, estate to bodega, just about anywhere you live.

Mark Di Ionno is a Jersey guy through and through. He's lived in fifteen different towns in six different New Jersey counties. He's been a journalist for the state's top newspapers, currently the Star-Ledger, where his first job was to go out and write about things that were interesting. Who better to take readers on a personal tour of the backroads of New Jersey? In *Backroads, New Jersey*, Di Ionno leads readers off the congested interstates with their commonplace scenery to the seldom-explored secondary roads, where the real life of the state can be found. These inter-county or 500 series roads are a 6,788-mile network of mostly one-lane highways. Marked by blue-and-yellow five-sided shields bearing county names, they make up more than 20 percent of New Jersey's public roads. They are never the fastest or most direct way to get anywhere, but when you break out of the towns and hit the country, they are a pleasure to drive. Travel with Di Ionno as he takes readers to see the state's amazing beauty from the dizzying cliffs of the Palisades, to the blunted peaks of the Highlands and Kittatinny Ridges, to the rolling hills of Morris, Hunterdon, and Somerset counties, to the topsoil-wealthy agricultural belts of Monmouth and the southern counties, to the flat, sandy beaches of the 127-mile Jersey Shore. Travel with him as he shows us the homes of New Jersey's culturally diverse population, whose men and women work at everything from farms to pharmacies, from banks to auto assembly lines. And travel with him as he recounts the history made along the back country roads in towns like Rocky Hill, where George Washington wrote his farewell orders. Di Ionno calls New Jersey a place of infinite natural beauty, a place of intricate human patterns. A place where you can see a lot in a little time. This is, simply put, the overriding theme of this book. New Jersey is a restless state for restless people. A state for wanderers to explore. *Backroads, New Jersey* is a rare chance to see it all through the eyes of a well-traveled Jerseyan. Happy wandering!

From the Back Cover Mark Di Ionno is a Jersey guy through and through. He's lived in fifteen different towns in six different New Jersey counties. He has spent over twenty years covering the state as a reporter and editor. Who better to take readers on a very personal tour of the backroads of New Jersey? In *Backroads, New Jersey*, Di Ionno leads readers off the congested interstates to the seldom-explored secondary roads, where the real life of the state can be found. These intercounty or 500 series roads are a 6,788-mile network of mostly one-lane highways. They are never the most direct way to get anywhere-but they are a pleasure to drive and a way to see New Jersey life as lived by New Jerseyans. Travel with Di Ionno as he takes us to see the state's amazing beauty-from the dizzying cliffs of the Palisades, to the blunted peaks of the Highlands and Kittatinny Ridges, to the rolling hills of Morris, Hunterdon, and Somerset counties, to the topsoil-wealthy agricultural belts of Monmouth and the southern counties, to the flat, sandy beaches of the Jersey Shore. Di Ionno calls New Jersey "a place of infinite natural beauty, a place of intricate human patterns. A place where you can see a lot in a little time. New Jersey is a restless state for restless people. A state for wanderers to explore." *Backroads, New Jersey* is a rare chance to see it all through the eyes and experiences of a well-traveled Jerseyan.

About the Author Mark Di Ionno is an assistant managing editor at the state's top newspaper, the Star-Ledger. Two of his books published with Rutgers University Press-New Jersey's Coastal Heritage: A Guide and A Guide to New Jersey's Revolutionary War Trail-won the New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance Award.