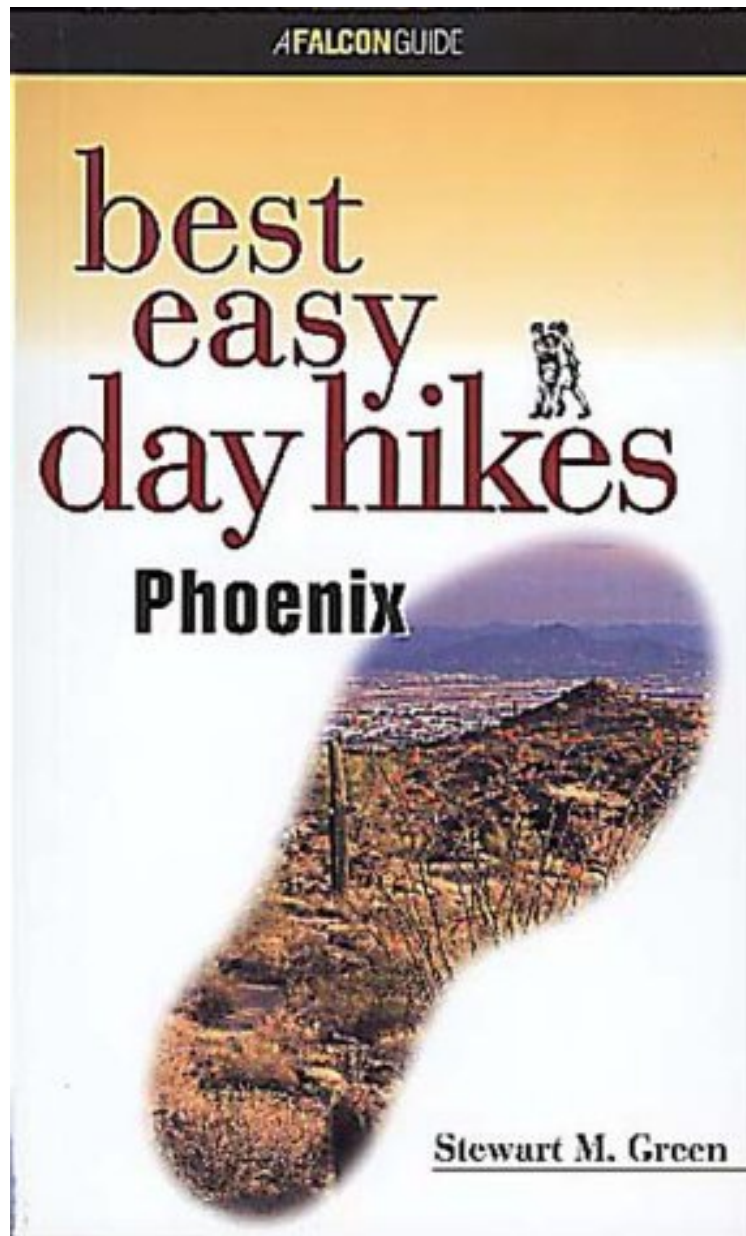


[FREE] Best Easy Day Hikes Phoenix (Best Easy Day Hikes Series)

Best Easy Day Hikes Phoenix (Best Easy Day Hikes Series)

Stewart M. Green

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Stewart M. Green : Best Easy Day Hikes Phoenix (Best Easy Day Hikes Series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Best Easy Day Hikes Phoenix (Best Easy Day Hikes Series):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. AT LAST! A proper hiking book for families with little ones. By M.

Heiss This book can grow with your family. We live in the Phoenix area, and we have been so exasperated because none of the parks seem to have handicap or stroller access. We want to explore the desert with our little ones, but most of the hikes around here are too rugged for the under-3 crowd, or anyone who wants to accommodate a stroller. Imagine driving 45 minutes or more with your little ones in the car, only to get out, put sunscreen and hats on everybody, get going and... get stuck. It's too steep, too rocky, too dangerous, too sandy, or just not feasible for your kids. It's a major disappointment. We have taken some drastic measures -- hiking in the Catalina mountains north of Tuscon, we actually "portaged" the stroller up a couple of steep slopes -- with the children on board! Ridiculous. What little wheelchair or stroller access there is around here, is usually on the road with traffic passing by. Not too fun. So, on to Easy Day Hikes by Stewart Green. Great, great book that will grow with our family's needs. It is a proper hiking guide, with very useful information. It gives wonderful descriptions of how to reach the trailheads -- this is really helpful because sometimes they are hard to find. Most of the hikes are doable for adventurous 5 year olds. Our cheerful three year old can manage even some steep grades with a little encouragement. Remember, going down is harder on little people than going up -- they want to run and they always fall. A few are doable with strollers, particularly the White Tank Mountain waterfall trail. The words "barrier-free" refer to wheelchair access, but we find that they pertain nicely to strollers, too. If you are just getting started and want an easy stroller activity with your kids with LITTLE danger and virtually NO climbing, I have two recommendations that are not in the book. 1) Try the Boyce Thompson Arboretum on the 60 east of Florence Junction. There is a stroller-friendly guided or self-guided tour, and the whole arboretum is fantastic. Closer to Pheonix is the Desert Botanical Garden (next to the zoo and Papago Park), but we like the Boyce Thompson better for the desert experience, although we have membership at DBG. 2) Go to Lost Dutchman State Park east of Apache Junction. Before you even enter the park (no fee), turn off into the parking lot on the right. There is a self-guided desert plants walk with NO grade whatsoever (no grade = no climbing). The path is smooth, small gravel (easy even for umbrella strollers) and there are virtually no people on this trail, EVER. You see some giant saguaro cacti. There are a few resting benches and lots of beautiful and interesting desert plants. The placards are very informative and this is easy, easy, easy for kids. This is a great guide for Phoenix folks of all abilities who want to explore their area. I would recommend it for families, which is very unusual in hiking books around here. Take water. Wear a hat. Bring a camera and some plastic bags (to take your trash out). Stop to have a look around. If I ever write a blog for the Phoenix outdoors, I will include cell phone reception -- I think Moms can do a lot with their kids if they know where their cell phones reach. Until then, this is the best book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book By Cindy This book is filled with a lot of great information. Comes in very handy. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beware of "easy" hikes! By Paul Book is great, but my wife and I had an issue with the ratings. We're pretty good hikers and the trails listed as "easy" in the book were quite strenuous. I would hate to see people use the ratings and not be able to complete the hikes.

Hikes varying from half-hour strolls to full-day adventures, this guidebook is for everyone, including families.

From the Back Cover The Phoenix metropolitan area, sprawling across the Valley of the Sun, is one of Arizona's most popular visitor destinations. The city and its suburbs offer superb hiking trails in the vast and spectacular Sonoran Desert. Best Easy Day Hikes Phoenix will direct you to some of the best short hiking trails on Squaw Peak, McDonald Mountain and in Lost Dutchman State Park. Best Easy Day Hikes Phoenix includes concise descriptions and detailed maps of mostly short, easy-to-follow trails that lead to some of the most scenic destinations in the area. With hikes varying from half-hour strolls to full-day adventures, Best Easy Day Hikes Phoenix is for everyone, including families.