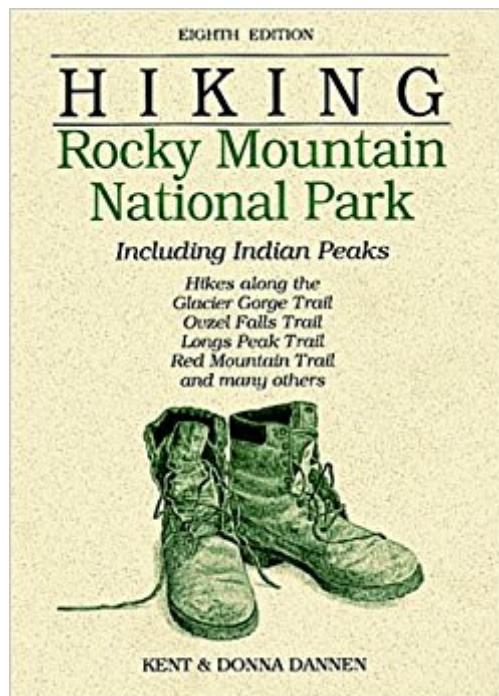


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# Hiking Rocky Mountain National Park: Including Indian Peaks



## **Synopsis**

This is the most popular and comprehensive guide to this region. Hikes include the Glacier Gorge Trail, Spectacle Lake Trail, Longs Peak Trail, Lulu City Trail, and many more.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 304 pages

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## **Customer Reviews**

Lace up your boots and sample more than 450 miles of trails in Rocky Mountain National Park and the Indian Peaks Wilderness. Veteran hikers Kent and Donna Dannen introduce you to memorable trails highlighting the natural splendor of the Rockies. Each hike description includes detailed information on trail access, best times for hiking, and points of interest along the way. With special sections on what to wear, carry, and eat and invaluable advice on wilderness ethics and safety, this guide is an indispensable companion to hiking and backpacking in Rocky Mountain National Park and the Indian Peaks Wilderness. (5 x 7, 320 pages, illustrations, maps, charts) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Kent and Donna Dannen have guided hikers over the trails of Rocky Mountain National Park and Indian Peaks for a combined total of more than 50 years. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

During past trips to the Smoky Mountains, Glacier, and Yellowstone I found the corresponding Falcon Guides invaluable for planning appropriate hikes for my family and expected the same from

this guide. I was wrong, and disappointed. This guidebook reads more like, well, a guidebook than a hiking guide. It's written more as a narrative without the useful information I've come to expect from Falcon-specifically, hikes arranged in the book by area of the park, length, difficulty, elevations gains/losses, and maps. I suppose some of this information is within the text, but the layout makes it much more tedious to find. Not completely useless as a planning tool but not recommended as a quick reference guide.

I agree with what others have said about this book being disorganized & not up to Falcon's standards. Additionally, the book is poorly written and reads as if it were written by a high schooler. Nolan's comment below nicely sums up the book. Too bad, because I usually enjoy the Falcon hiking books. By contrast, Lisa Foster's book, "Rocky Mountain National Park: The Complete Hiking Guide," ISBN # 1565795504, is great. Foster's book was the one I actually used.

To be honest I have only read about the hikes and treks, and it will be a while before I field test this guide, but there are several routes I would have never found without this guide and I hope to try a few of them in the coming year.

The couple has written a very good guide to trails in the park. Not the best book in my library on the topic, but in the top 2 or 3 Hiking Rocky Mountain National Park, 9th

I got this guidebook thinking that it would be up to par with the many other Falcon Guides that I have used. This is nowhere in the same league as most Falcon Guides. This is, in a word, "awful". At a quick glance, one might think that this book will outline a series of hikes organized by region and trailhead. It IS organized by region, but that's as far as it goes. Each section contains a rambling description of various trailheads and destinations, interspersed with incomplete maps that may or may not match up with the verbal descriptions on the adjacent pages. There are also "fun facts" about nature thrown in at random, which normally I like, but not in this book. It just seems random for example to see a blurb about the Abert's squirrel in the section on the Lumpy Ridge region as opposed to any of the many other regions where one might just as easily see an Abert's squirrel. Mileage and elevation information is very lacking, and it is extremely difficult to piece together a coherent hike out of this mess of a book. Imagine asking your senile grandparent for information on hiking a trail, and this book would be very similar to what you get. I find this book to be terribly organized and borderline worthless. You would be much better off just buying a good RMNP

trailmap and working out hiking routes on your own, since you'll basically be doing just that with this book anyway. If you still decide to buy this book, at LEAST look through it thoroughly before you start your hike, so you know exactly what information is and is not contained inside.

I own 22 Falcon hiking guides. This thing is horrible. First few pages talks about how it is not designed to make it easier to hike in the Rocky Mountains NP. And it doesn't. It's obviously written by one of those guys who wanted to get paid for writing the book, but doesn't want you on his trail. You know what I am talking about if you have read a dozen or so hiking guides. This dreadful thing is a 320 page continuous paragraph. I can't even tell where the new hike ends and where a new one begins. Don't know how long the trail is or what the elevation gain/loss. There is no chart describing the mileage/elevation throughout the trail that I have found in every other Falcon guide I ever purchased. I see now that if I had read the reviews first, I would not have made this selection. Since the return postage is probably more than the book costs, I am going to just burn it, stomp on it and make sure it is dead.

This is a superior guide for anyone seeking an "off road" experience in Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP) -- the only way to really see the park's wonders. The authors have first hand experience on the trails, discuss the terrain, the turns, the animals, flowers, and habitat. For the novice or less experienced hiker, this book will give you everything you need to hike in confidence. It will help you select the best trail for your time and effort level. This book will tell you "what's up ahead," so if you're an explorer first, the surprise is limited to the beauty not the unexpected. However, if avoiding uncertainty is your goal (and a good one in the mountains where weather is unpredictable and terrain and altitude can be challenging) this is The Book. Without this book a hiker to Mills Lake, for example, might not know to look for the cairns that mark about 100 yards of obscured trail over the glacial rock just north of the lake. For the more experienced outdoorsman and those familiar with the park, the book provides a touch of naturalism and environmental science that makes an informed reference or overnight backpacking trip. I've selected a number of trails to hike in the park based on this book's descriptions and recommendations and NEVER been disappointed. I am planning a one-week excursion across the park for the summer of 2000 and will have this book in my backpack. This book is money well invested.

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