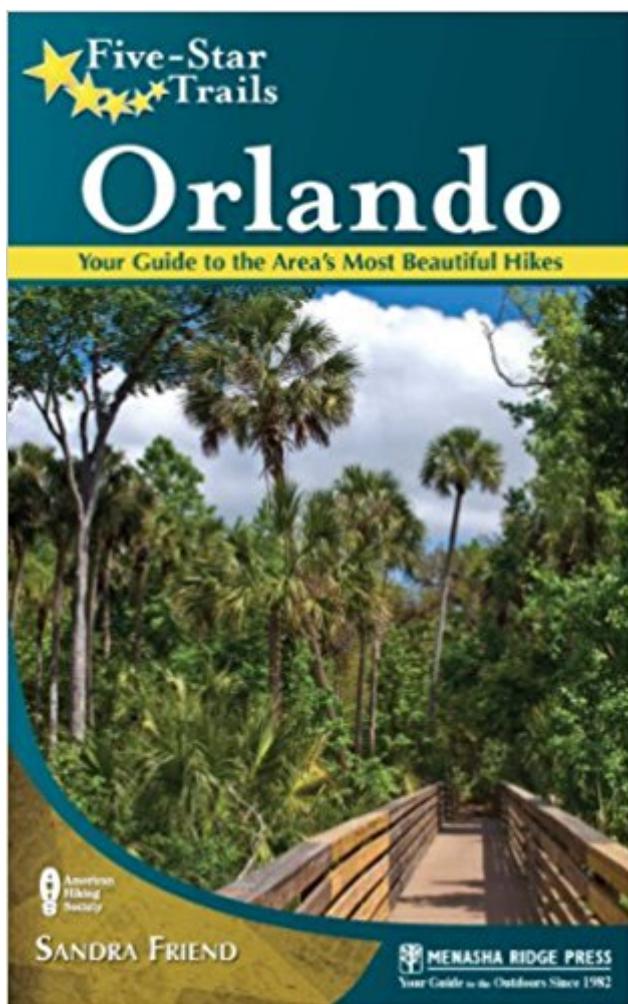


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# Five-Star Trails: Orlando: Your Guide To The Area's Most Beautiful Hikes



## **Synopsis**

Five-Star Trails: Orlando is a handy guide for area residents, vacationers seeking outdoor fun, and for business travelers with a free afternoon. With a diverse collection of hiking routes, the book offers choices for everyone from solo trekkers to companions to families with either youngsters or oldsters to consider. Researched, experienced, and written by a local author, the guide provides in-depth trail descriptions, directions, and commentary on what to expect along the way. Each hike features an individual trail map, elevation profile, and at-a-glance key info, helping readers quickly determine the perfect trip for them when they are ready to head out the door. Sized to fit in a pocket, the book is convenient to keep in the car or toss into a backpack. Driving directions direct hikers to the nearest trailhead parking areas, and GPS trailhead coordinates get them to the start of the trail.

## **Book Information**

Series: Five-Star Trails

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## **Customer Reviews**

Bowing to a bloodline of adventure that includes explorer Henry Hudson and Lappi reindeer herders, Sandra Friend walked away from a career in software design in the 1990s and headed to the woods. After getting her feet wet with outdoor writing in the mid-Atlantic and traveling backpacker-style across Greece, India, and Nepal with her sister, she carved out a niche with Florida hiking. After publication of her first five hiking books, she spent five years as Communications Director for the Florida Trail Association. With more than 3,000 miles logged on Florida's trails and a growing stack of publication credits, she's working on her 27th book. An avid outdoors enthusiast with a background in information systems and human-computer interaction,

Sandra is known beyond her books for keeping up with the cutting edge of online communications, including rapid development of apps and websites. She owns and manages the popular hiking website Florida Hikes. Currently the chair of the Freelance Council of the Society of American Travel Writers (SATW) and a member of the Board of Directors of Friends of Florida State Parks, Sandra has also served in many volunteer advisory roles over the years, among them director of the SATW Institute for Travel Writing & Photography, board member of the Florida Outdoor Writers Association, and as a long-time volunteer on the VISIT FLORIDA nature-based tourism committee.

Loving this book so far. We recently moved to Charlotte and have been exploring as much as possible and while I've been finding trails through trip reports and AllTrails, it's nice having such an organized book that contains detailed information about what's local. My goal is to explore every trail he's listed. The descriptions of the trails are pretty accurate from what I've seen so far ("to continue on this loop, turn right at rustic fence" - yep, there was a rustic fence) but the times may change seasonally. I would just double check if you're planning to be somewhere late and aren't sure on closing time. His rating system for the trails is helpful and he also includes the best time to visit them. Overall it's a very helpful book especially for venturing out on your own when you don't have someone more experienced to show you around.

I have never reviewed a book for anyone, and I have bought hundreds. I bought this book because I live in the Charlotte area and have some down time from thru-hiking the Appalachian Trail, but limited time to hike. I will have no more than 6-10 hours a week to do a walk/hike. This book is very complete. No one needs anything else to be ready to find the trail, and hike the trail. No confusion. Written in a clear, well thought through manner, which is a quick aid to someone who has been hiking for years, or someone who wants to see what walking in a nice place is all about. No one will regret owning this go-to guide. The confidence it gave you approaching and during your first hike you planned using this book will make the cost well worth it. The trails it talks about will always be there in my life time. Somebody will find this book on my shelf when I die. I am 72 years old and been hiking/running/walking this planet for a long time.

This is a great book. I'd give it 5 stars if it weren't for a couple of problems. The GPS coordinates are usually very good and useful but I found one that was way off. The maps and the descriptions don't always match up well. Maps sometimes have intersections not addressed in the description and sometimes it isn't clear whether the description is for a clockwise or counterclockwise loop.

These are relatively minor complaints and are easy to deal with.

Live in Orlando and looking forward to hiking when I retire.

Worth it I guess nothing you cant find on the web if you know to look for it.

This is a very helpful resource. I hope to complete every one of these hikes, some I didn't know existed until I got this book. Others are quite familiar to me and it's just fun to read about them and learn that other people love hiking there as much as I do.

Excellent guide. Well written.

My wife and I are scout leaders and we find this book very helpful in picking hikes to go on with our scout groups and as a family. The trail descriptions are well thought out and helpful. We found out about a trail that is new to us, though it is only a few miles from our home. We hiked it and had a great time.

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