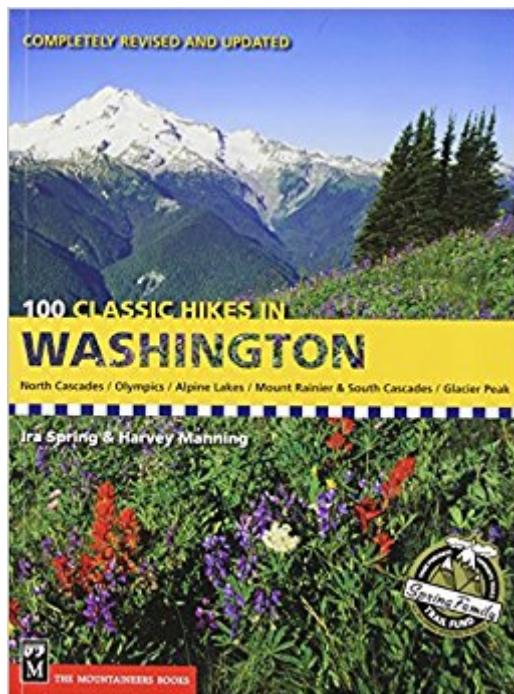


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# 100 Classic Hikes In Washington



## Synopsis

Fully detailed, best-selling hiking guides. These "best of the best" guides feature full-color photos and maps throughout.

## Book Information

Series: 100 Classic Hikes

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Mountaineers Books; 1st edition (1998)

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Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars 35 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #740,276 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in Books > Travel > United States > Washington > Mount Rainier #14 in Books > Travel > United States > Washington > North Cascades #19 in Books > Travel > United States > Washington > Olympic Peninsula

## Customer Reviews

Classic Hikes is a greatest hits of previous Mountaineers guidebooks for Washington, collecting in a single volume 100 hikes from the guides to the Alpine Lakes, North Cascades, Glacier Peak, Mount Rainier, and South Cascades and Olympics regions. The intelligence behind the selection comes from Ira Spring and Harvey Manning, who between them have more than 100 years of hiking experience in Washington. Owners of other Mountaineers guides will notice that the production values of this volume are even higher than usual; color maps and photos adorn high-quality (recycled) paper. At-a-glance information for easy browsing includes the following: mileage, suggested duration in hours or days, high point, elevation gain, seasonality, topo map codes, and additional contact information. The text synopses are colorful and politically opinionated (woe to the dirt biker who crosses paths with these two!). Their sense of tradition is also readily apparent: "To start with the ice cream and work through the meatballs and potatoes to the soup is not esthetic. Coming to the Enchantments by way of Aasgard is in very bad taste." While avid hikers will have plenty to argue about concerning the sins of omission, it's hard to argue with the inclusion of Mount Rainier's Wonderland Trail, Whatcom Pass in the North Cascades, Image Lake in the Glacier Peak Wilderness, the Enchantments in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, and the Olympics' High Divide.

These represent some of the most spectacular hikes in North America. The downside is that you're not likely to find solitude in such places, no matter how remote. But there are 95 more trails to choose from, many of similar scenic beauty and slightly less fame.

Worth purchasing for the photos alone. -- The News Tribune [Tacoma, WA]

"Ira and Harvey," as my hiking partner and I fondly refer to the authors, are probably the best hiking writers / photographers I've ever encountered. Yes, the book is opinionated; there is no doubt about that. However, that is what makes it special. If you want a book with 1000 hikes and a short listing of facts, this book isn't for you. However, the authors have pulled together their favorite 100 hikes and feel free to tell you exactly why they think they're great. Ira (Spring) was a famous photographer in his day, and I enjoy drooling over his photos of the sites I'll see on the way to hike. We usually preface our hikes from this book by reading the hike description aloud and laughing over Manning's excesses. My edition is one older than this listing, and in it, as another reviewer remarks, the authors do rail against motorized vehicles. Anyone who's been asphyxiated by a 4-wheeler and coughed for minutes after its departure can appreciate and agree with their rants. In the edition I have, there is no negative mention of dogs or horses. In fact, Harvey references hikes with his dog fondly. I have noticed in later editions of Mountaineers books anti-dog writing which bothers me - a lot. However, I have never seen that in this book. If you can only own one hiking book for Washington, this is the one. It's entertaining, informative, recommends fantastic hikes, and has great photos.

Content met my expectations. Arrived in good condition, promptly. Reasonably priced.

Ira Spring and Harvey Manning are icons to NW hiking enthusiasts. This is a classic I send to my out of state friends, and I return to for information as well.

Like the last guide I purchased "Best Loop Hikes Washington", this book completely ignores the eastern half of the state, which can be frustrating if you live in Eastern Washington. This particular book the authors have decided to take a different route with their trail descriptions. Instead of actually describing them, they spend most of the time trying to make witty comments about this or that, which I found annoying. The pictures however are cool, that's why I'm giving it 3 stars.

This is still a great guide to review or give as a gift to an interested hiker.

This is a beautifully illustrated book - I'll certainly give it that. I didn't get into the prose, though, because as I thumbed through the summary description of each hike, I was disappointed to find how few of them are accessible to the casual hiker. I'm going to Seattle in mid-May and I wanted to take a few hikes while I was there. Of the 100 hikes listed in this book, less than 5 of them are accessible in May, and all of those are either on the coast or east of the Cascades. The weather isn't the authors' fault, but one would hope there would be a few "classic" hikes that would be accessible at other times than mid-summer. The other disappointment was that a very large percentage of the hikes involve trips of multiple days. I'm sure they're gorgeous, but this borders more on camping trips than hikes. I found [Foghorn Outdoors Washington Hiking: The Complete Guide to More Than 400 Hikes \(Foghorn Outdoors\)](#) to be a much more useful guide.

The organization and detail in this book are amazing. They really provide lots of information to help select and prepare for going on the best hikes in the area. The pictures are also outstanding!

If you enjoy the outdoors in Washington state this book has some good trails. I would recommend it to anyone looking for a hiking trail.

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