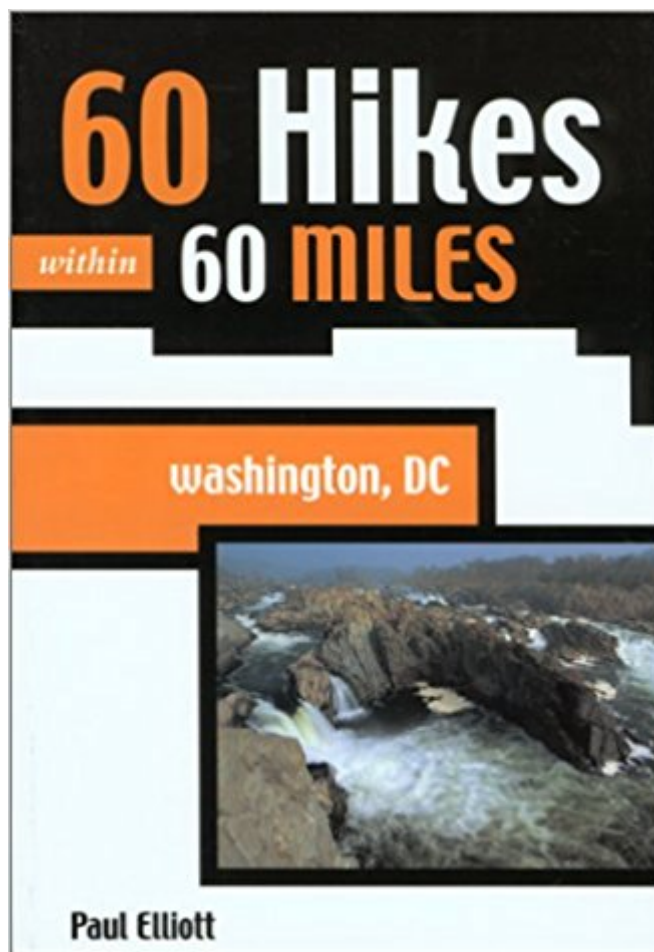


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# 60 Hikes Within 60 Miles: Washington DC



## Synopsis

This guide will lead hikers and trail runners to the choicest trails in the District, including surprisingly remote paths along northwest and northeast branches as well as the many hidden jewels tucked away in the area's regional parks.

## Book Information

Series: 60 Hikes within 60 Miles

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Menasha Ridge Press; 1st edition (June 10, 2002)

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Product Dimensions: 9 x 6.1 x 0.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars 15 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,997,540 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 in Books > Travel > United States > Washington, D.C. #789 in Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Exercise & Fitness > Walking #3447 in Books > Travel > United States > South > South Atlantic

## Customer Reviews

It's time to take a hike! No more excuses like "there's nowhere to go around here," "the woods are too far from the city," or "I don't have time to wander the trails." With 60 Hikes within 60 Miles: Washington, DC as your guide, you have dozens of places to hike to your heart's content, and all within an hour's drive or less. Trailblazers scour the earth for the best places to explore, and yet they often overlook their own backyards. 60 Hikes within 60 Miles: Washington, DC blows the lid off the myth that you can't have a great hike close to home. The District of Columbia and its environs may be an ever-expanding metropolis, but there are still plenty of super hiking options, including short hikes, long hikes, hikes for kids, urban hikes, rural hikes, wildlife hikes, historic hikes, and many others. Whether you live in Washington, DC or the surrounding area, 60 Hikes within 60 Miles: Washington, DC provides you with the information you need to choose the perfect day hike, including maps, directions, trail lengths, hiking times, and a wealth of detail about the trail itself. So lace up those boots, sling that pack, and hit the trail! (6 X 9, 256 pages, b&w photos, maps)

Paul Elliott works as a writer/editor and plays primarily as a social and solo hiker. He has been

leading hikes year-round in the Washington metro area and beyond since 1990, most recently for the Sierra Club and Appalachian Mountain Club. His forte is getting people with a taste for adventure to sample the pleasures and surprises of the area's remarkable array of hiking opportunities.

I like this book a lot, but it has strengths and weaknesses. As a previous reviewer said, sometimes the descriptions are inconsistent, vacillating between lots of detail and micromanaging the turns, then a will switch to long intervals with no description. So, honestly, prepare for a wrong turn or backtracking; I've had to do that more than once using this book. As the book suggests, you should NOT use this guide as your only map. If you really want to make sure you stay on the hikes as suggested, get the 'official' map for the area and mark out the trail described in advance. However, what this book offers is really a great way to discover DC and some surrounding areas. I actually love the idea that the writer uses the idea of 'hike' loosely, to include some areas that are urban, and even suggested paddles and bikes as part of the experience. Even on well-used trails like Rock Creek Park, the writer tends to lead you on some of the less-well-beaten side trails, with interesting descriptions of the flora and views. It's true, as writers have said, that some additional info you might want is not in there, but in this day and age, don't you have the metro stops on your phone, anyway? And the thing about pets: pets rules in parks tend to change, sometimes quickly, so I'm not sure you would want that info in a book, you should probably plan to be looking up that info in a more current place, anyway. Still, I understand the gripes. Finally, it's true some of the 'best known hikes' in the area aren't in the book. To which I say "exactly". Do you really need another mention of Old Rag? I think this book is a curated selection of hikes for all levels. I own about a dozen hiking books, 3 of which cover the same region as this book, but this one is still my favorite, I go to it time and time again and am never disappointed.

I am a bit apprehensive about the accuracy of this book when not 5 minutes of browsing through the book I see on the map on page 271, Hike # 56, Shenandoah River State Park, the Shenandoah river miss-labeled as the Potomac River.

I first spotted an earlier print version of this guide at my friend's place. I was amazed how clear and comprehensive it was! I used to spend a few hours before going on a hike researching the best options online, and I never thought that a book can replace that extensive research. Now all my ideas come first from the book. I search for additional tips online here and there, but it is not

necessary. So far I tried 8 out of the hikes and experience been nothing but positive.

I don't feel like writing an extensive review, but I will say this: This book is great for people who have no clue about hikes or trails in the DC area...but for someone who's been on or at least heard of many of these...it's very limited. In fact, there are several trails/hikes I know of WELL inside of this books geographic range that are not included. Long story short: good for beginners/older folks/people new to the area...not so much for outdoorsy people who have lived in the DC area for a while.

Gave as a gift. Appeared to be what she was looking for.

Good book, as advertised.

Pretty old book. I think there are more relevant ones out there now a days.

Simply wonderful.

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