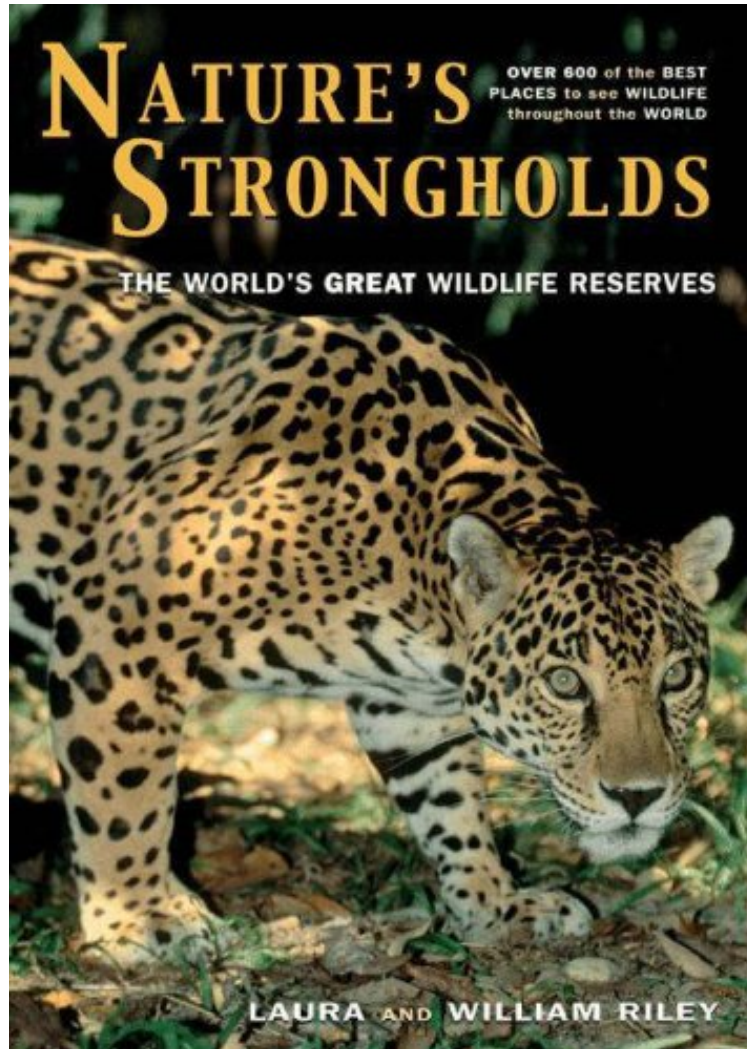


Nature's Strongholds: The World's Great Wildlife Reserves

Laura Riley, William Riley

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Laura Riley, William Riley : Nature's Strongholds: The World's Great Wildlife Reserves before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Nature's Strongholds: The World's Great Wildlife Reserves:

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photographs are not only gripping and moving, but also sharp, clear and very carefully printed. The layout makes the wealth of information enticing and accessible, which is a great boon to the armchair traveler as well as to the regular explorer. The information provided for each site is just what the serious traveler, amateur ornithologist, conservationist, or eco-tourist would want, too--a list of significant birds, beasts, and other features not to be missed. Most valuable of all, perhaps, is the inside information on each location that the Rileys, explorers and conservationists of many years experience, provide. Both as a record and as a call to preserve the spectacular refuges described, Nature's Strongholds is a magnificent gift to the world!

Bengal tigers in the jungles of India. Birds of Paradise in the wilds of New Guinea. Penguins on frozen beaches in Antarctica. These and other charismatic and endangered species find homes within the world's great wildlife reserves. Only a few persons have had the opportunity to visit many of these wildlife sanctuaries and witness these magnificent animals firsthand. Now, for the first time, the splendor of the world's most impressive wildlife reserves is captured on the printed page in this gloriously illustrated book by naturalists Laura and Bill Riley. The Rileys, who received Pulitzer Prize nominations for their book on American wildlife refuges, spent ten years researching this book, visiting reserves on every continent. The 600 sanctuaries featured were chosen on the basis of exhaustive on-scene reports, interviews, and personal experiences. From Ecuador's Galapagos Islands to Tanzania's renowned Serengeti, they represent the last places on earth where the natural world remains intact. Some of the reserves are as large as European countries, others the size of small farms. Many are growing as people everywhere become aware of their beauty and importance. The book includes information on each sanctuary's historical and ecological significance, details about how to visit and what to see, and a comprehensive index for locating individual species. A feast for the eyes, Nature's Strongholds offers a magical excursion into these majestic-and seldom seen-paradises. Anyone who has ever dreamed of taking such a journey will long to have this book. Includes? 150 color photographs Information on each reserve's historical and ecological significance details on best times to visit as well as monthly temperature and rainfall descriptions of habitats 75 detailed maps

From Scientific American From Botswana to the Camargue, from Denali to Komodo Island, this book covers more than 600 reserves in over 80 countries. The authors, long-time nature writers and conservationists, have included information on how to visit these extraordinary sites, their ecological significance and some historical background. Most of the world's charismatic and endangered species--many depicted here in gorgeous color photographs--owe their continued existence to such reserves, the last places on earth where nature remains more or less intact. The volume itself is a terrific resource. Editors of Scientific American Winner of the 2004-2005 Lowell Thomas Bronze Award, Category 20: Travel Book, Society of American Travel Writers Foundation Honorable Mention for the 2005 National Outdoor Book Awards, Nature Guidebook Category "The book's comprehensive geographical coverage, as well as the quality of information it provides, will ensure that it will find a broad audience around the world."--Gerhard M. Van Den Top, Times Literary Supplement "Nature's Strongholds . . . offers conservationists, wildlife enthusiasts, travel professionals, ecotourists and armchair travelers detailed information about the world's best reserves and parks. . . . [N]o other book compares with this one in scope. It serves as a reminder of what humanity stands to lose in the battle to preserve the world's last natural 'strongholds.'"--Roger Harris, American Scientist "Wife and husband team the Rileys spent 10 years researching this guide to 600 nature reserves in more than 80 countries visited by 40 million people each year. The weighty result of their endeavors is a lavishly illustrated . . . book that will tempt any armchair traveler to get up and go. . . . If we're lucky, what's recorded here will save some amazing creatures and plants from extinction. But the Rileys note the threats, from human settlement growth, logging, mineral and oil exploitation, to war, that make these reserves so necessary."--Paul Nettleton, The Guardian "Outstanding in layout, design, and photography . . . this book provides concise, well-written descriptions that capture the essence of each reserve and park. . . . The book makes delightful reading for the armchair traveler and serves as an excellent overview and reference source for hard-to-find information on wildlife and wildlife habitats in more remote areas of the world."--Choice "This exhaustive guide is a veritable encyclopedia. . . . Covering 600 of the world's best reserves, the book summarizes the history and ecology of each and includes the best time to visit, types of animals, nearby lodging and transportation and temperature and rainfall charts. . . . [T]he brilliant photography will have you packing your bags."--San Francisco Chronicle "The Rileys' book has the potential to close . . . gaps in protection. It will inspire more people to visit reserves. . . . From aardwolf to zubr (European bison), this volume fills an information gap for scientists, environmental organizations, and anyone interested in the best wild places."--Karlene Schwartz, Bioscience From the Inside Flap A splendid book. Nature's Strongholds is one of the best travel books ever written, filled with exciting information and certain to boost global ecotourism and conservation."--Edward O. Wilson, biologist, educator, and Pulitzer Prize-winning author "Nature's Strongholds is a well-designed, comprehensive compilation of critical information for all eco-inclined travelers, field researchers, and wildlife safari-goers--an exceptionally interesting and useful book."--Peter Matthiessen, author and naturalist "The Rileys' new book captures the essence of spectacular wildlife reserves around the world. I immediately pulled out my calendar to plan returns to much-loved parks and explorations of others I've yet

to see. Each visitor to these places will not only take away life-long memories, but will also contribute economically to their long-term survival. I know of no other book like this."--Kathryn Fuller, President, World Wildlife Fund-U.S.

"The Rileys have reminded us of precious landscapes that endure despite the intrusions of modern life, and of the importance of natural beauty in our lives. It is as close as one can get to a life list of places to be . . . at least once."-- Steve Sanderson, President, Wildlife Conservation Society