

(Read now) The Vail Hiker and Ski Touring Guide

## The Vail Hiker and Ski Touring Guide

Mary Ellen Gilliland

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**Mary Ellen Gilliland : The Vail Hiker and Ski Touring Guide** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Vail Hiker and Ski Touring Guide:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good Hiking Info - Poorly Laid OutBy Nancy KangasMaps are poor and hard to read. The graphic design of the book leaves a lot to be desired. Book is hard to read if your eyesight is going. Directions to trail heads are poor. Book is poorly written. Would be nice if color was incorporated. This is the only book for hiking Vail so incentive to upgrade is low. I am veteran of many hikes in the Vail area.5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Best little book around!By Devra DiDomenicoBeing a naturalist hiking guide, I

recommenD this book to everyone! Detailed directions to the trailhead, accurate difficulty ratings, fairly accurate times (on the trail, that is!) Thorough descriptions of most of the best hikes in the Vail area.

A trail guide to the back country around Vail, Beaver Creek, Avon, Eagle and Minturn, Colorado including all of alpine Eagle County. Forty trails with key statistics including elevation gain and degree of difficulty. Topo maps and photos accompany each 2-page trail description. A fold-out map gives users a clear definition of the whole county trail network. Features include Special Hikes for Kids and Trails Selected by Difficulty, with plenty of easy hikes as well as advanced trails for all kinds of users. A feature of *The Vail Hiker* is the number of trails into the spectacular Holy Cross Wilderness area and the rugged Eagles Nest Wilderness. The book's wire-O binding allows it to lay flat in your backpack or on the seat of your car while following driving directions. A sturdy laminated cover resists rain.

"A few years ago she wrote the very successful and popular Summit Hiker book. *The Vail Hiker* is a companion volume ...This is an excellent book and I would recommend it to you. One of the charms of books by Mary Ellen is that she not only gives you a trail guide and description, but she captures the beauty of the area in her prose. "This edition is a good addition for any mountain hiker library." -- Columnist J.D. "Colorado" Farr in *The Summit County Journal*, July 1988"Mary Ellen Gilliland has just completed her second trail guide, *The Vail Hiker*. She hiked each of the trails, re hiking the ones where forks could lead people in the wrong direction. Some of them she hiked as many as two or three times." -- *Summit Sentinel*, June 3, 1988"Mary Gilliland's book *The Vail Hiker* is only 40 trails but the contents are as big as all outdoors." -- *The Vail Daily*, June 8, 1988"This 102-page book contains 40 hiking and ski trails in the County, from Vail Pass to the Gypsum area. ...Adding great dimension to the guide book are the chatty narratives about what hikers can expect to see, including tidbits of information about bygone mines, the flowers, and the surrounding mountains. Also of note are the special hikes for kids, such as a waterfall on Cataract Creek near Camp Hale or the big sandbar on Black Gore Creek. Gilliland says she hiked every trail. "I feel that's important," she said, "because there's always a fork where the trail goes into the trees and people have created the beginnings of a misleading path," -- *The Vail Trail*, July 1, 1988"Very thorough in its approach," said sports writer Steven Weinmeister. "A 'must' for and cross-country skiers." -- *The Denver Post*, Jan. 25, 1989From the PublisherThis book highlights backcountry trails around Vail, Colorado. High hidden lakes, alpine cascades, historic relics and high passes serve as destinations. Visit meadows awash with bright wildflowers and explore weathered buildings the once housed gold rush prospectors. A new, revised edition features the just-debuted North Vail Trail, easily accessible to visitors without cars by foot from Vail Village. Carefully-compiled trailhead directions and easy to follow trail instructions get hikers to their destinations. Working closely with the U.S. Forest Service, Gilliland has produced a reliable handbook and companion to her best-selling trail guide, *The New Summit Hiker and Ski Touring Guide*. In winter, snowshoe enthusiasts and cross-country skiers find an avenue to a white world of alpine tranquillity. Winter users will find snowshoe and ski trails to snow-blanketed beautyFrom the AuthorI found writing this book a dream. Nowhere does nature's beauty in the alpine environment match the splendor of the back country around Vail and Beaver Creek, Colorado. To take off and hike several times a week in this mountain beauty spot wasn't really working! After summer's last wildflower waned, I began doing the historical research. I like to include the historic background of the places hikers see. An old cabin stirs questions-who lived there, and why? Mining ruins make one wonder, what story lies behind this abandoned equipment and swaying log buildings? I love to find the answers and weave them into my hike description along with the names of the wildflowers along the trail and tips on seeing the elk, deer and other birds or animals I may have encountered. I want to share these experiences with my readers. You'll never forget the Eagles Nest and Holy Cross Wilderness areas. There's nothing as refreshing as a morning stroll through an untouched aspen woods. Join me in the sheer pleasure of exploring Vail's beautiful back yard--the pristine glade and the breeze-rippled meadow await you. Your Vail/Beaver Creek vacation won't be complete without sampling the beauty of its mountain surroundings. Come hike these beautiful trails with me! In winter, cross-country skiing or snowshoeing these trails finds them transformed into a billowed and folded, eiderdown quilted white world. Often the only tracks I saw were those of the snowshoe hare or the marmot. Slip away into a quiet oasis on your skis and leave the world behind. The workout manages to refresh the body while the scenery cleanses the mind. Being the author of *The Vail Hiker* and *Ski Touring Guide* is the best job one could get! Mary Ellen Gilliland