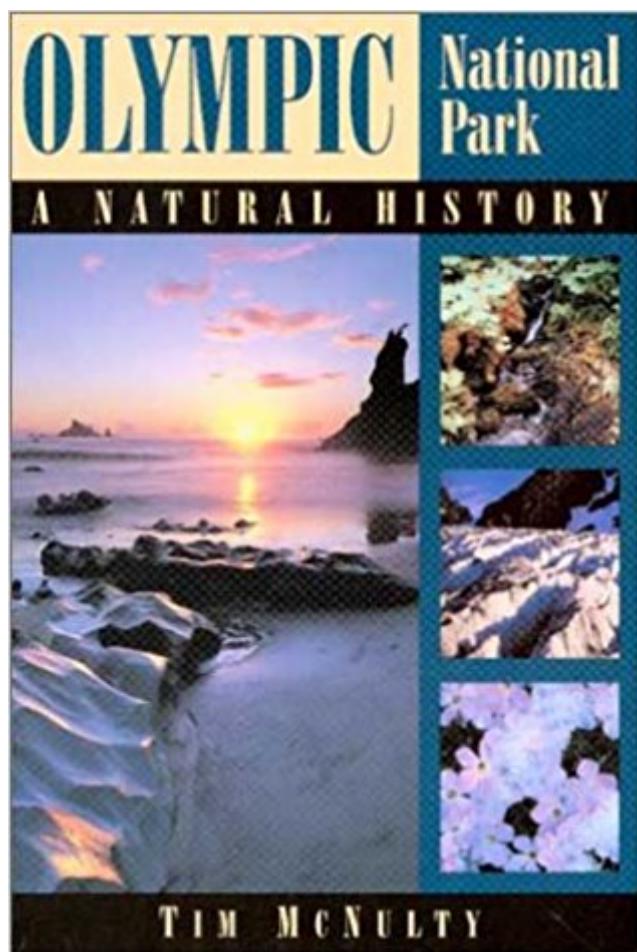


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Olympic National Park: A Natural History



Synopsis

On Washington's Olympic Peninsula more than 1400 square miles of rugged mountains, richly forested river valleys, and pristine wilderness coast have been preserved as Olympic National Park. From rain forests with more than 160 inches of annual precipitation to arid rainshadow slopes, from rugged glacier-covered mountains to the wild Pacific coast, the park's varied ecosystems feature an extraordinary range of plants and animals, including many species found nowhere else on earth. This illustrated complete guide covers geology, wildflowers and other plant life, rain forest ecology, glaciers, wildlife, rivers, the Pacific coast, and visitor information. Tim McNulty is a poet and nature writer who lives in the foothills of the Olympic Mountains.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Tim McNulty carries readers along with a combination of intimate knowledge and unbounded enthusiasm."--Seattle Post-Intelligencer "One of the best ways to learn about Olympic National Park ... is to read Tim McNulty's natural history guide... He creates a portrait of the park from coast to rain forest and snow-covered peaks in his usual graceful style, weaving stories of science and history and nature."--Everett Herald "McNulty knows his territory ... He offers something unique, a coherent narrative of the forces, both physical and biological, that fashioned and sustain the varied Olympic ecosystems."--Douglasia "Pick any page ... and start reading. Instead of stuffy prose and highly technical terms, you'll find a warm conversational tone... [This] book packs an encyclopedic range of information about Olympic National Park's natural history."--The Sequim Gazette

The classic natural history guide to Olympic National Park

This book covers just what the title promises - - the geology, rain forests, rivers, ocean, alpine regions, and other areas of Olympic National Park. It's a little jarring to see Indians included as part of the "natural" history, equivalent to Roosevelt elk or Olympic marmots, but McNulty treats white settlers and the National Park Service in the same way. McNulty weaves together an overall story of the peninsula despite dividing it into habitats and the like. This makes it a good read from start to finish, but it would also be useful as a companion for a visit - - just read the rainforest chapter when you're in the rainforests, and so on. McNulty also includes various personal moments, all well-timed and appropriate in length. This is not a personal memoir but these memories truly enhance the natural history that he presents. He also has an infectious enthusiasm, makes this book a lively read for a general audience. It also has beautiful pictures. In short, a great book if you're at all interested in the Olympic Peninsula.

The book covered every aspect of the park totaling preparing me for my upcoming six day hiking adventure in the park.

We went to the Olympic Peninsula on a family trip and saw many of these beautiful places! Fabulous photographs, great memories!

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