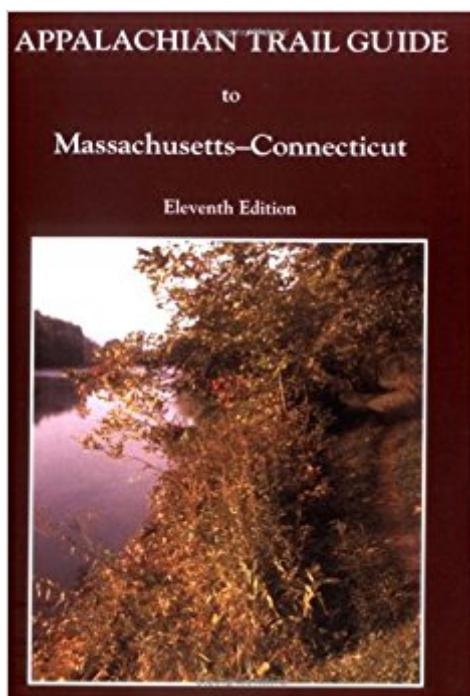


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Appalachian Trail Guide To Massachusetts-Connecticut



Synopsis

One of 11 official guides to the Appalachian Trail, each of which includes a pack-sized book and up to seven separate water-resistant maps in a resealable plastic bag, this volume covers the 142 miles from the southern Vermont border to the New York line near Kent, Connecticut. The three detached, full-color, tear-resistant, two-sided maps are at a scale of 1:38,750 and include elevation profiles and topographical lines. Detailed trail descriptions are in the book, along with information on water sources, shelters, and road access points; extensive background on area history, points of interest, geology, and natural resources; and locator maps and photographs.

Book Information

Paperback: 190 pages

Publisher: Appalachian Trail Conservancy; Eleventh edition (December 1, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1889386138

ISBN-13: 978-1889386133

Product Dimensions: 9.8 x 6.4 x 1.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,911,169 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #14 in Books > Travel > United States > Connecticut > General #99 in Books > Travel > United States > Massachusetts > General #2123 in Books > Travel > United States > Northeast > New England

Customer Reviews

The proceeds from these guides support the protection, management, and maintenance of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail.

The "field editors" of this guide, Norm Sills and Sue Spring for Connecticut and Robert Hatton for Massachusetts, are among the 5,500 volunteers at the core of nonprofit management of the Appalachian Trail.

Following a general introductory part, the guidebook gives a description of each section of the AT in MA and CT (a trail section is roughly a 10 mile or so segment, generally cut by notable roads). The description consists of two portions: general and historic information (nearby towns, sites, camping,

etc.) and trail description. The latter is a list of mileage points and directions. While it is very dry, it provides precisely the information one needs for hiking the AT. The water-resistant (plastic-like) maps are very detailed. A rather unusual feature is charts showing elevation change versus distance traveled. In principle, either the maps or the book are sufficient to follow the trail, though each conveys useful additional information. Some people might perhaps find the two way too detailed and narrowly focused. In contrast to more comprehensive guidebooks (such as the White Mountain Guide), it describes little more than the AT (a few side trails are described), but in my view it does a fantastic job at what it sets out to. I have used this guidebook in MA and generally found it to be very accurate, even though it is 8 years old.

This is simple. The book is so so. There are definitely better guides that give you info on backpacking in CT and Mass. The only reason you should buy this product is for the maps. The maps are AWESOME! The detail is excellent and the map paper is water resistant. The book is lackluster and dull. The David Emblyne guide is much better and explains the trail with far more detail. Again, I don't plan on using this book but will absolutely use the maps. I give the maps five stars and the book 2-3 stars.

This book tells you what you need to know to hike the trail over these sections. The maps are accurate. It even includes sections on flora, fauna and geology of the region and hiking safety.

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