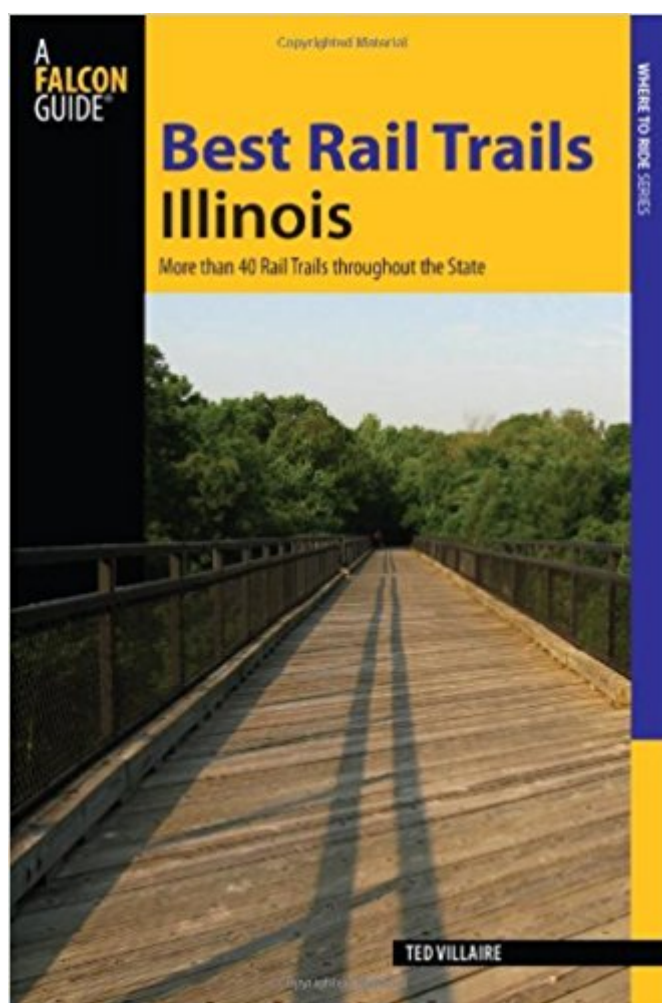


The book was found

Best Rail Trails Illinois: More Than 40 Rail Trails Throughout The State (Best Rail Trails Series)



Synopsis

This is the only guidebook to focus solely on rail trails in the Prairie State. From the Chicago area's Prairie Path; one of America's first rail trails; to trails in the vicinity of St. Louis, as well as numerous other urban, suburban, and rural rail trails statewide, it covers all the best routes. Factual details include length, elevation profiles, availability of restrooms, accommodations, area attractions, and directions to all main trailheads. Also available: Best Rail Trails California (09/2008; 978-0-7627-4677-4) Best Rail Trails New England (05/2009; 978-0-7627-4584-5) Best Rail Trails Pacific Northwest (01/2009; 978-0-7627-4607-1) Best Rail Trails Wisconsin (01/2009; 978-0-7627-4676-7)

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Best Rail Trails Illinois is the complete guide to walking, jogging, biking, and cross-country skiing more than forty of the most popular rail trails in Illinois. Written by an author with expert knowledge of the Prairie State, this easy-to-use book provides mile-by-mile descriptions of the top rural and urban rail trails "from the Chicago area's Prairie Path, one of America's first rail trails, to trails in the St. Louis area and those set in the breathtaking beauty of the Shawnee National Forest, as well as numerous other urban, suburban, and rural rail trails statewide. Look inside to find:

- Full trail profiles, including length, access points, difficulty rating, and surface type
- Detailed trail maps
- At-a-glance icons for easy identification of rail trails that best suit one's interests
- Information on wheelchair accessibility, parking, restrooms, where to rent

bikes, and places to eat along the trail. Location of ranger stations, visitor centers, and depot museums --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A passionate cyclist, hiker, and runner, Villaire is a regular contributor to the Backpacker magazine website and has written freelance articles on outdoor recreation for various publications, including Windy City Sports magazine, Silent Sports magazine, Rails to Trails magazine, The Chicago Tribune, and the Des Moines Register. He served as the editor of a weekly Chicago neighborhood newspaper and he worked for a number of years as a publications editor for a large, Chicago-based nonprofit. He has served with Illinois Leukemia and Lymphoma Society as a hiking leader for its Team in Training program. Villaire is the author of the book, 60 Hikes with 60 Miles: Chicago, published in its second edition in 2008. He also wrote the forthcoming books, Camping Illinois, Road Biking Illinois, and Best Bike Rides Near Chicago (FalconGuides). --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Once again all trails books leave a lot to be desired. Even though this has a newer copyright, (2010) there is misinformation & many trails aren't represented at all. For example "Salt Creek Trail" is listed as being 10.9 miles & only in Cook County. When in reality it's 34 miles long and runs through DuPage County and starting & ending in different parts of Cook County. This trail has been this long for at least 20 years. And that's just one way. MANY other discrepancies abound.

After going on the first rail to trails, trail, in Wisconsin, i got hooked. The nice and level trails with dirt build ups in the swamps, cool above ground views of the forest bed. Tunnels! This book has lots of other trails i had not heard of near Chicago and reviews of some classic ones' i'd been on. If you are an old fart like me Rails to Trails is the way to bike. Get a book for your area, then get out and enjoy a mostly flat ride. Those long precise, 3% railroad grades can be harder than you think. but going home is fast! Fergy

I love this book, checked it out at the library and decided to purchase for my hikes. Lots of great information on each trail.

This guidebook is packed with up-to-date and historic information on 42 trails. My only complaint is that the maps do not distinguish between trails and connecting, on-street passages between segments of a trail. This information is available in the text of the book, but looking at a map itself,

you would not know, e.g., that the Green Bay trail beginning in Wilmette is not continuous with the North Shore Channel trail in Chicago and Evanston/Skokie; same for the Major Taylor trail gap in Beverly.

It does have some good info. I think one is better off just joining Rails to Trails Conservancy, Info is much more complete and up to date.

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