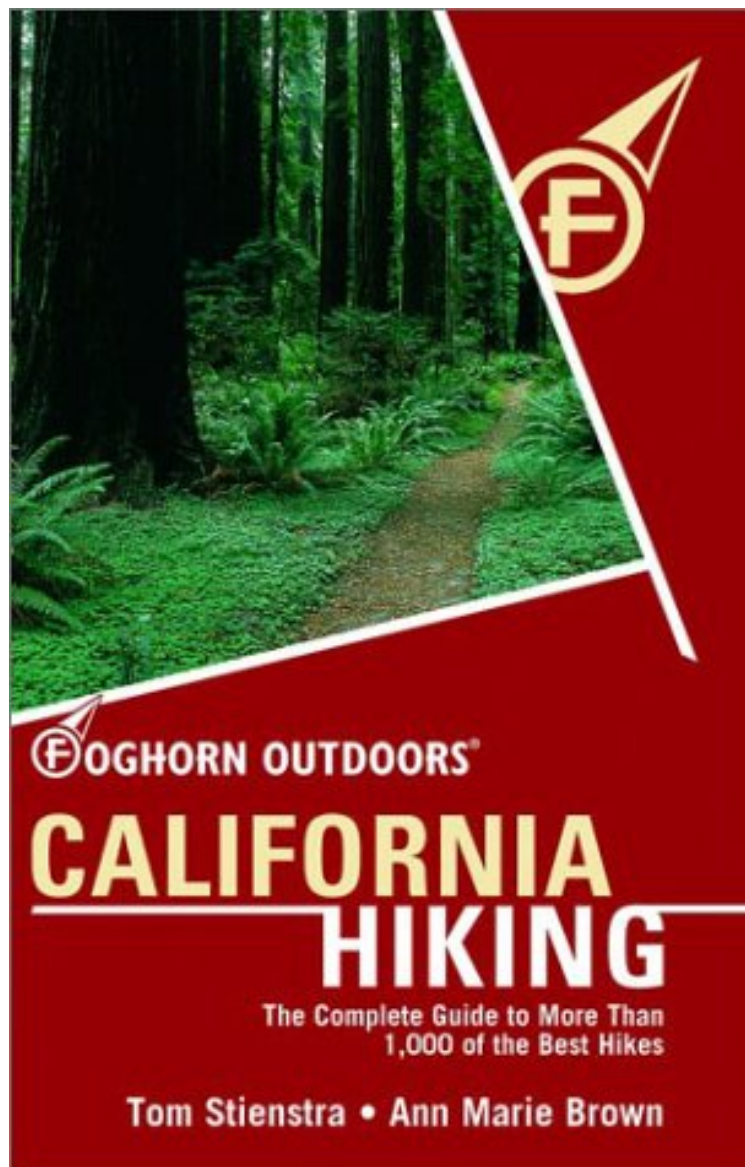


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## **Foghorn California Hiking: The Complete Guide to More Than 1,000 of the Best Hikes (Moon California Hiking)**

*Tom Stienstra, Ann Marie Brown*

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**Tom Stienstra, Ann Marie Brown : Foghorn California Hiking: The Complete Guide to More Than 1,000 of the Best Hikes (Moon California Hiking)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Foghorn California Hiking: The Complete Guide to More Than 1,000 of the Best Hikes (Moon California Hiking):

24 of 24 people found the following review helpful. Not quite 1000, but a nice survey nonetheless By Fritz R. Ward  
Writing a hiking guide for the whole state of California is quite an ambitious task. By and large Ann Marie Brown and Tom Stienstra have succeeded. Over the course of 16 chapters, each covering a broad geographical region of the state, they have provided lists of the best hikes in almost any area that one could visit in California. They also provide nice maps of each region they survey showing the approximate location of each trailhead. For those who like exploring in the golden state, this is an excellent book. I have personally hiked over 200 trails in this book and enjoyed almost every one. I look forward to using this book in the future as well. Having said that, a few caveats are in order. First, the book does not list "over 1000" hikes. Earlier editions did, but many trails have been dropped from this edition. Gone is the Amos Alonzo Stagg tree, a nice walk to the 7th largest sequoia. Trips to Peppermint Creek and Nobe Young Falls are also absent. Some of these hikes have been replaced by others, but on the whole there are fewer trails listed than in previous editions. Second, the book has a strong bias towards Northern California. Not surprisingly, both authors happen to live there now. Of the 964 hikes in this guide, only 317 are south of the Monterey area. I could add numerous trails from the San Bernardino Mountains alone to this book. Finally, you should not expect trail maps in a book of this scope. The authors do, however, tell you where to obtain maps for each trail listed. These caveats aside, you should purchase this book. It is a great introduction to hiking in California. Once you begin exploring trails in any region you will undoubtedly find others to entice you. Happy trails.

5 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Nice revision of a popular guide By Fritz R. Ward  
California Hiking by Tom Steinstra and Ann Marie Brown has become something of a Bible to hikers over the years. This edition has some dramatic changes in format from previous versions of the book. Most obviously, the chapters cover much larger sections of the state. Whereas earlier editions used a narrow (and quite artificial grid) to place hikes, the 2003 guide divides the state into 16 chapters, each covering a broad geographical area of the state: from the Northern Redwoods to the Southern Deserts, and everything in between. Other changes include a longer introduction, with hiker safety tips, and the absence of Steinstra's amusing commentary on the Pacific Crest Trail. The latter was too general to be used by through hikers in any event. Finally a few trails were added or deleted. On the whole, the new edition is an improvement over the last version. Placing hikes in a broad geographical area allows for easier planning of vacations. Still, with any guide this comprehensive, there are bound to be some problems: obviously the authors could not walk every trail listed every couple of years. Generally speaking, Tom Steinstra tends to underestimate miles. Local guides I've read and trails I've hiked tend to suggest more than his descriptions denote. Also, Steinstra requires more effort to give a hike a high difficulty rating than Brown does. Ultimately, this book should not be relied upon for detailed information. Things like trail maps and detailed trail descriptions simply have no room in guide this comprehensive. The book is already a bit too bulky. Nonetheless, this book does give one a nice overview of various sections of the state. It is particularly helpful for travel. It can give someone a brief listing of hikes in an area and suggest a productive use of vacation times. People who do a lot of hiking in one particular area, however, would do well to purchase detailed guides that concentrate on a much smaller region. Living in the San Bernardino Mountains, I found little of use in this book. But it was invaluable on my recent trip to Humboldt Redwoods and vicinity. If you travel the state and like to hike, this book is well worth the price.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I LOVE THIS BOOK By mnlooney22  
I LOVE THIS BOOK! I haven't actually had a chance to complete hikes using this book however I have done some listed in the book and they are as described. I love the organization, ratings, and short descriptions. Most of all I love that it tells user groups for each hike. I often find myself wanting to do a hike listed in many of these books only to find they are not dog friendly. I like how I know from the beginning which hikes I can take my dog on and which I need to leave him home. Great resource.

Devoted campers, hikers, boaters, anglers, bikers, and golfers agree: Foghorn Outdoors guidebooks are essential for anyone who wants to spend less time planning and more time enjoying the outdoors. Each book is an excursion guide packed with the latest information on a variety of adventures near and far. Written by outdoors experts Tom Stienstra and Ann Marie Brown, Foghorn Outdoors: California Hiking is the complete hiker's resource, with detailed descriptions of more than 1,000 hikes of varying lengths, difficulty, and terrain. From short morning hikes along the coast to multiday backpacking trips in the Sierra Nevada, this guide has all the information you need for an enjoyable hiking experience. This sixth edition includes:

- New organizational structure: Divided into regions which will also be the destination chapters of the books.
- New keynotes: There will be a short introduction to each region describing the features of the area with particular attention to what hiking is like in the area.
- New maps: Very detailed and easy to navigate. Each region will have a complete map set with every hike listed on it.
- New hiking tips: Tips have not been part of this book before. They will include advice on gear, safety, low-impact

.com There are few corners of California in which Tom Stienstra has not set Vibram-soled foot at one time or another. In this information-packed guidebook, the longtime San Francisco Chronicle outdoors columnist catalogues the best (and the rest) of the Golden State's trails, combining his encyclopedic knowledge with that of another accomplished trekker, Ann Marie Brown. The two cover more than a thousand hikes that range from short jaunts to multiday

expeditions, rating each walk for length and difficulty and providing notes on water sources, points of interest, permits, contacts, and other useful data. At the most demanding end of the scale, for example, is a 14-mile scramble up Mount Shasta, for which they recommend that you carry an ice ax and crampons; on the moderate side is the 10.6-mile ramble through Pine Valley, in the coastal mountains above Big Sur, with "an up-and-down course that soon becomes more down than up"; and on the easy end is a 1.2-mile round-trip amble along the Desert View Nature Trail near the summit of Southern California's Laguna Mountain. In every instance, Stienstra and Brown tell what you can expect to see and where you're likely to encounter trouble in the form of storms, predatory mammals, or crowds. Thoroughly updated, this is by far the best single source of information on planning a hiking trip in California. --Gregory McNamee Meticulously researched and smartly written, Foghorn Outdoors offers some of the best recreation guides around.