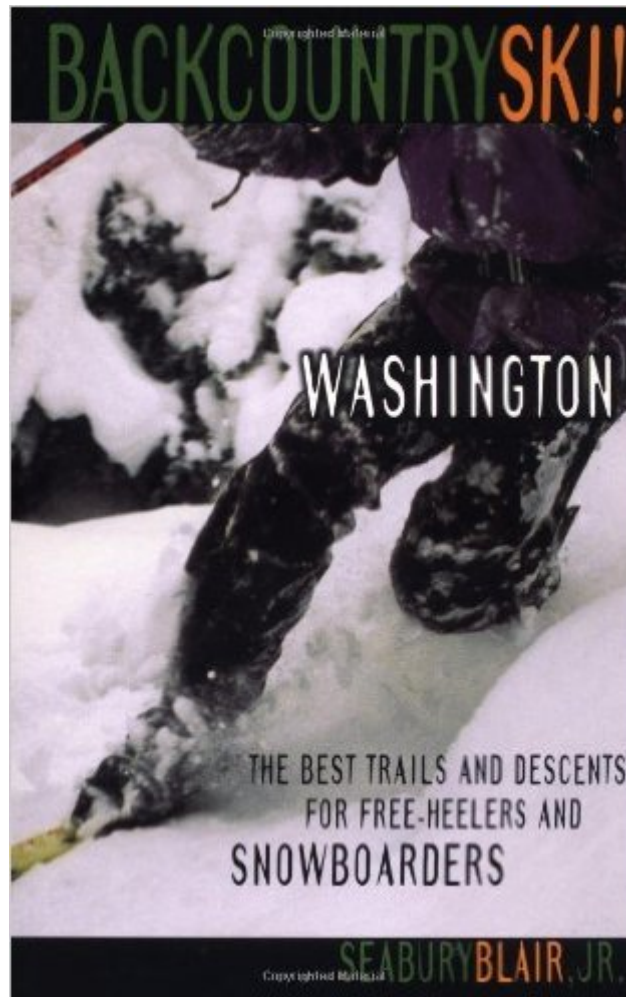


The book was found

Backcountry Ski! Washington: The Best Trails And Descents For Free-Heelers And Snowboarders



Synopsis

Discover the best places to go in the Cascades and Olympics for backcountry skiing -- telemarking, cross-country, and snowboarding. In his new guide, Seabury Blair explores ungroomed powdery slopes and pristine wilderness trails, with more than half the routes described for intermediate-level backcountry skiers. The 70 routes described here feature mileage and elevation gains, trail logs, estimated skiing times, topographical maps with GPS, photos, skill levels and traction required, map references, directions, and avalanche potentials. Blair also includes information on safety, gear, and resources as well as tips on backcountry areas in eastern Washington.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This has got to be one of the worst guidebooks I have ever read. I bought it only because it was, at the time of its release, the only backcountry skiing guidebook for Washington. Now that the 2nd ed. of Rainier Burgdorfer's book has come out, there is no reason to buy this one. There are several things wrong with this book:1) The tours are mainly beginner and intermediate tours. (It's true that these types of skiers will get some use from this book, but there are other problems). For example, the Muir snowfield tour is portrayed as the be-all-end-all tour, when really it is a mundane overcrowded route. Furthermore, he squeezes several tours out of one, especially in the Paradise and Hurricane Ridge sections... tour #20: go 1/2 a mile, and swoop down this bowl. Tour #21: go a mile further, swoop down this bowl. Tour #22: go 1/2 a mile further, there is a nice viewpoint.2) For each of these tours, driving and trailhead directions are repeated in full. For cases like Paradise and

Hurricane ridge, which, as noted above, probably have 10 "tours" from the same spots, this is such a waste of space!3) He talks way too much about his dog "wunderhund", and silly anecdotes, instead of giving useful advice. He states the obvious a lot.4) Snowboarders? That word is in bold font on the cover, in an attempt to appeal to a new market. The reality is, not many of these routes are suitable for snowboarders. In conclusion, flipping through this book is depressing. You feel like there really isn't any good backcountry ski terrain in Washington. And the silly writing gets old really quickly.

Does anyone besides Seabury Blair's friends like this book? Marlene Kocur liked it but she has also drew the maps for the book. Another reader gave it 5 stars but also happens to live on the Olympic Peninsula. Probably another of Mr. Blair's friends. If you give this horrendous book a positive review please be completely honest about whether or not the author happens to be a friend of yours. Blair has written a pamphlet for beginning cross-country skiers and then stretched it into a book by printing the same route descriptions over and over again. Then he slapped a cover on it to try and sell it to backcountry skiers and snowboarders. A quick perusal at the bookstand would make this obvious but on the web we don't have that luxury.

The author has written a witty very informative book. I would very strongly recommend it to anyone who loves the outdoors, and is looking for a book that is not only accurate, factual, but also very entertaining. GREAT READING!

The best thing about this guide is that you can use it all winter and put it away in the summer. I really like the relaxed style and the way the author makes me feel like I can do any one of these routes in a day. I own both backcountry skiing and snowboarding guides to Washington, and this one is by far the best. Most of the routes in the other book are only open in the summer and it would be impossible to get to them in a day.

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