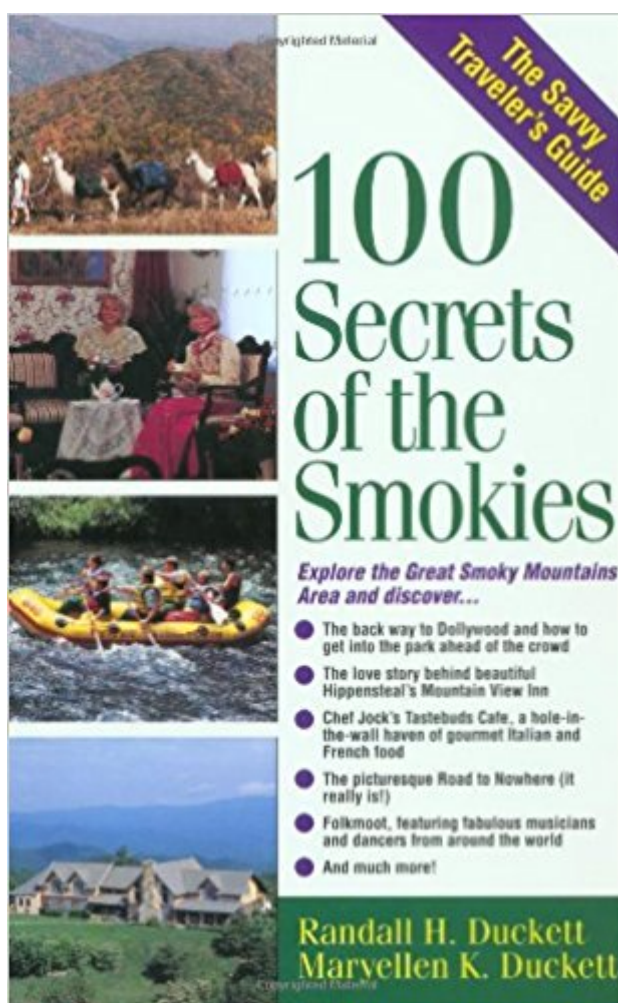


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100 Secrets Of The Smokies: A Savvy Traveler's Guide (The Savvy Traveler's Guide)



Synopsis

This helpful guide provides visitors to the Great Smoky Mountains with "Top Secret" instructions on where to eat, where to stay, and how to avoid traffic gridlock in the area. Illustrated and indexed.

Book Information

Series: The Savvy Traveler's Guide

Paperback: 262 pages

Publisher: Thomas Nelson (March 1, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1558535861

ISBN-13: 978-1558535862

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 5.2 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 11 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,314,305 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #32 in [Books > Travel >](#)

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Customer Reviews

I wish I'd been able to preview this before buying it. I was expecting something along the lines of the online sites that give you 10 places you must visit when you're in a particular place. Only in this case, ten times the amount. Something along the lines of a Lonely Planet or Moon guide, only with interesting places those books may have missed. For starters, the information is dated. Secondly, it's a mish-mash of information that jumps around from category to category, mostly telling anecdotal stories about places, many of which visitors to the area won't be interested in, and others so popular (Dollywood being a good example) that they hardly qualify as secrets. It's all in here, restaurants, lodging, zoos, scenic drives and more. And if anything, there's too much information, It sometimes takes some sifting to actually find out what the attraction is - and sometimes where it is is similarly obscured. The black-and-white photographs are average and don't make the reader eager to visit any of the "attractions." Also, there's no cohesion. It doesn't help in planning a trip, because you're never really sure how close together many of these so-called attractions are; grouping them either by proximity or by type would certainly help. Also, this book badly needed editing. There are howler typos that any editor worth their salt would have sifted out immediately, some even make it into headlines. Admittedly, there are a few places in here that are probably worth visiting, but these days

better and more immediate information can easily be found online, and it's more concise, more recent and better laid out. That the website at the back of the book, and the second edition do not exist is probably telling. Of the 100 places in here, some were obvious, and I found one additional place I'd like to visit while in the Smokies, however I'd already found it in a restaurant search, and the information in the book was incorrect, likely because of its age. Had this been called 100 interesting stories of the Smoky Mountain Region, it would have been more accurate, and it would be perfectly fine (other than those embarrassing typos), although I'd not have bought it. Thankfully, used copies are very cheap, so I don't feel as though I've wasted much, although I'll likely never open it again. It's not terrible, it's just not particularly useful in the current internet age.

bought this book 15 years ago. This one was a gift. Book shows out-of-the-way and off-the-beaten-path destinations. If you're tired of Dollywood, go see "the road to nowhere", which was to be an alternate route over the mountains into Cades Cove. It stops abruptly at the "tunnel to nowhere". Ever heard of the Walker sisters, Sterling Mountain or Rich Mountain Road? Get the book.

Even though the book is a little outdated, it is still a terrific guide to the Smokies. The two best secrets were #69, Holloway's Country Home and #91, Rodky Waters Motel.

great

This book is 20+ years old. New attractions not listed and old attractions gone now.. If you want light useless reading...

I have been traveling to the Smokies for years. The cabin we were staying in had this book on the coffee table. I really enjoyed it and was able to discover new places we knew nothing about. While it does tell about some of the more popular places, it also tells about places out of Pigeon Forge & Gatlinburg that aren't advertised. I couldn't wait to come home and order a copy for myself. Interesting history of some of my favorite places too. Great book for anyone who loves the Smokies.

The Great Smoky Mountain National Park is an area of rare natural splendor. It is surrounded by the Great Smoky Mountain region which is a ... tourist trap. I bought this book hoping to find 100 secrets of the Park: the best sunrise view, the best hike for small kids, the best fishing stream, etc. The book

does have a few secrets of the Park, but mostly it's about the tourist traps: the Exotic Petting Zoo, the best steakhouse, the backdoor entrance to Dollywood. If these are the things that interest you, you will like this book. However, if these are the things that interest you, then you should seriously consider vacationing in Orlando instead of in the Smoky Mountain region.

This book was written by people who really know the Smokies. They found some of the coolest places for all ages. I strongly recommend this book.

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