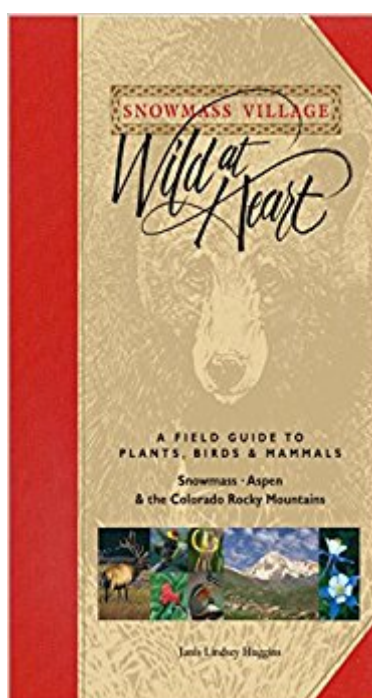


The book was found

Snowmass Village ~ Wild At Heart, A Field Guide To Plants Birds & Mammals Of Snowmass/Aspen & The Colorado Rocky Mountains



Synopsis

Colorado's 2005 Non-fiction Book of the Year - awarded by Colorado Humanities and the Colorado Center for the Book. This unique, all-in-one guidebook contains 670 beautiful color photos and covers 423 plants, 112 birds and 49 mammals of the wilderness areas in Central Colorado surrounding Snowmass Village and Aspen, Colorado. The content includes edible, medicinal, wildlife and gardening uses of plants, conservation status of birds and animals, tracking notes, and the ecology of various local life zones.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"As a fellow research writer and guide book author, I value Janis Huggins for her focus, commitment and unwavering belief in *Wild at Heart*. She has produced a true opus for naturalists eager to explore the full scope of the natural world at Snowmass and beyond. Open this book and find nature at your fingertips." -- Paul Andersen, Author of *East of Aspen*

"It's so enjoyable to find a natural history book that is comprehensive, authoritative and also fun to read. Beyond its obvious uses as a reference and learning tool, *Wild at Heart* is great for delving into at random. With all the interesting information about each species it makes great table reading for the solitary diner!" -- David Hiser, photographer for *East of Aspen*

Wild at Heart is a beautifully written and thoroughly researched natural history guide to the Southern Rocky Mountains. Author and photographer Janis Huggins, has crafted a book that artfully blends solid information on the plants, animals, and birds of the region with intriguing lore and observation. Laced with poetry and prose, illustrated with excellent drawings and photographs, and designed with the intent to inspire a broad spectrum of curious

naturalists, every page contains useful and fascinating information. Although dedicated to the Snowmass/Aspen area, this book is a must for any resident or visitor to Colorado who would like to learn more about native plants and wildlife. Wild at Heart is by far the most comprehensive, thoughtful, and well-designed field guide available for the Colorado Rockies. -- Katherine Darrow, naturalist and author of Wild About Wildflowers: Extreme Botanizing in Crested Butte, Colorado

Wildflowers - every mountain town in Colorado has 'em this time of year. So how to choose where to go to see the best and boldest colors? It's a tough decision. After all, who but the highly trained know the difference between a pinnate leaf daisy and a tansy aster? And why should we care? A recently published field guide should steer flora and fauna enthusiasts in the direction of Aspen/Snowmass. Wild at Heart, a natural history guide to Snowmass, Aspen and the Roaring Fork Valley, has been hailed as the definitive guide to the plants and animals of Colorado mountain towns - and one of the most user-friendly. The author, Janis Huggins, spent five years documenting all the plants (and birds and mammals) of the upper Roaring Fork Valley - wearing out a few pairs of hiking boots along the way, she jokes. Huggins, a botanist by trade, photographed 423 plants, recorded when they bloom and fade, learned about medicinal usage and current research, and gathered interesting tidbits about them. Using her scientific training, she compiled those findings into a comprehensive, 467-page tome that eliminates the need to carry a library of guides in one's day pack. But what's appealing about Wild at Heart is that it works for all Colorado mountain town environs above 7,000 feet. Most natural history guides are on too large a scale, or cover too broad of an area, to encompass all the species within an area. Most local guides are too specific to the area. Because this book is organized by family, it can be used in Crested Butte, Telluride, Keystone, Ouray or Vail, with confidence that you'll find the same flowers, or very similar variations thereof, on a high-altitude hike in the area. And if you take it to Snowmass or Aspen, "you know you're going to find what you're looking for," said Ann Larson, a wildflower enthusiast and avid hiker who lives in Snowmass Village. Huggins, a passionate hiker, wrote the book to appeal to enthusiasts with all levels of knowledge. A color guide appeals to wildflower neophytes, which then directs users to the main part of the guide, which is divided by family, preceded by a family key. (That allows users to learn characteristics of similar species around the world - knowing the columbine is part of the buttercup family, for example, is a start to identifying related flowers.) A description of the three mountain life zones (divided by elevation) is included, as are chapters on geology and trails. There even is a ruler on the back page. "I learned so much," said Larson, who has written several articles on local fauna. "There's one plant I've been trying to figure out for two years, and the book had it." In terms of the book bringing wildflower identification into the realm of Everyman, "It's like each plant is

a friend, not some alien species," Larson said -- Rocky Mountain News (CO), July 30, 2005, Catherine Lutz --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Janis Lindsey Huggins' passion for plants and the natural world has been a driving force in her life as long as she can remember. She moved to the Aspen/Snowmass area in 1970, and has spent more than 30 years exploring the local plants, wildlife and ecosystems. For many years, she has guided naturalist tours, worked as a freelance botanist and taught others in sports such as alpine skiing, cross-country skiing and windsurfing. Janis currently works as a field plant technician for Colorado State University. She hopes that readers of this field guide will be inspired to look at the landscape through new eyes, to cherish the fascinating species with which we share our surroundings, and to seek new ways to secure the future of those species as they are a part of the matrix that enriches life.

I love this guidebook for the Roaring Fork Valley and surrounding mountains. This book has great pictures and descriptions of common plants and animals found in this valley.

A terrific reference book for anyone who wants to learn plant identification, interesting facts on the history of Snowmass and the plants, animals and people that makes this valley so very special.

I have just about every wildflower book on Colorado that has ever been written, and this is one of my favorites. The author did an exemplary job of researching the facts, including good photos, and fitting it all into a manageable sized book. Because it also includes wildlife, I keep it in the console of my vehicle, a handy identification guide to most everything, particularly birds. It is specific to the Aspen area, but the info applies to most of the high valleys of the state.

From photographs to descriptions to layout, Janis Huggins' book is a work of art. It details the flora and fauna of Colorado's high mountains with such detail, clarity, and beauty that it received the 2005 Colorado Book Award for Non-fiction. This book would make a very thoughtful gift for someone you know loves the mountains of Colorado -- or it will bring about that love.

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