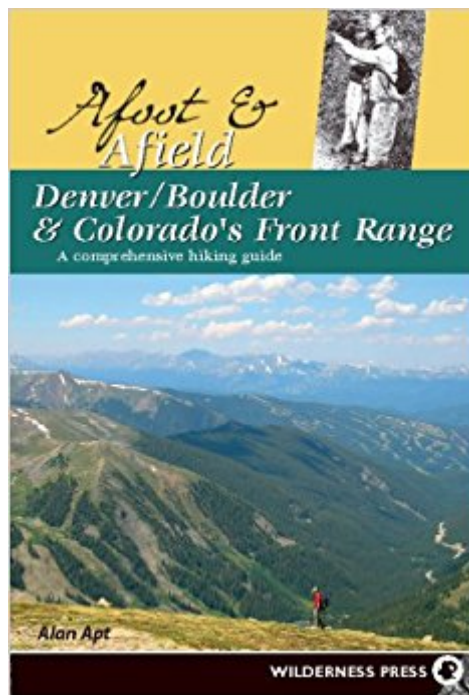




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Afoot And Afield: Denver/Boulder And Colorado's Front Range: A Comprehensive Hiking Guide



Synopsis

This guidebook takes hikers throughout the Colorado Rocky Mountains and their foothills, rivers, and plains. Featuring more than 200 trips, from trails near the state's Wyoming border to Pikes Peak near Colorado Springs, author Alan Apt maps out hikes both long and short, exploring trails accessible from Denver, Boulder, and other Front Range communities. Each hike has its own map, and includes essential at-a-glance info as well as additional trail-use data such as which trails are suitable for children, dogs, horseback riding, and mountain bikes.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Alan Apt has been roaming Colorado's hills and dales for more than 30 years. He is the author of the bestselling guidebook *Snowshoe Routes: Colorado's Front Range*. He is a somewhat reformed peak bagger, who has climbed many of the state's highest summits but also thoroughly enjoys the lakes, vales, and rivers. He is an avid hiker, biker, snowshoer, backcountry skier, kayaker, and backpacker. Alan is a member of the Colorado Mountain Club and a Sierra Club trip leader, as well as a member of Friends of the Poudre. He is a former Ft. Collins city councilmember, who worked to create the city's Wind Power Program for the Natural Areas and Trails programs and to protect the Poudre River, and is currently on the city's Natural Resources Advisory Board. He is a Colorado Special Olympics and Eldora Ski Area Special Recreation Program volunteer. He is also a National Ski Patrol member, volunteering with the Diamond Peaks Ski Patrol and Snowy Range Ski Area. Alan is a former Ft. Collins Coloradoan newspaper local columnist. He is a technical book publisher

by profession, and resides in Fort Collins.

I would have given this book a 5 star review if the author bothered to include an overall map for each of the sections. Great descriptions of trails, good general info, but what a pain in the neck to use for someone who has no idea how much of a driving distance it is between various trailheads for routes described here. So, as we are planning a week long camping trip, planning to split the time between 2 campgrounds, each of those with convenient access to moderate to challenging routes, I have to stare at the trail map, try to figure out the nearest road on the map, locate it in google earth, pin it, then go back to the book, get the next interesting route 'nearby', repeat and so on. We want to do lots of hiking and little driving - especially considering the recommendation to leave very early and turn around by 11.30. Thank god the campground book has a general map - overlaying that one over my google earth creation is relatively simple. Bottom line - if you live in Colorado, you should have no problem using this book. But if you are coming from elsewhere, get ready for lots of map research - more than necessary!

great detail

This book gives very good descriptions of hikes and parks which we found useful. One very big gripe though. We drove from the Nashville area to Colorado for one of those big trip-of-a-lifetime trips, pulled the camper and wrangled the dog all the way out there. Did our homework and planned the trip to a tee. It all came off great until we got to Roxborough State Park, right outside of Littleton, which this book describes as allowing dogs on leash. When we tried to enter the park, they turned us away because we have a dog. When we asked if we could enter and keep him in the truck, the answer was a big no. They said they had heard of this book and contacted the publisher, but it's still not corrected. They said the park has always had this rule. That's a big error for a travel book, especially one that describes destinations where travelers will tend to travel long distances to visit, and plan entire days (those precious few vacation days 1200 miles from home!) according to its guidance. Author and publisher deserve a black eye for this not being corrected yet. How many other errors are in this book? This is the only one we found, and this is the only park to which we referred in this particular book. Unfortunately I will not have the confidence to use this book in the future without doing thorough fact-checking, but I'd rather just buy another book.

an excellent, nearly thorough guide to hiking in Fort Collins, Boulder, Denver, Colorado Springs,

southern Wyoming, and various points west. Apt is a superb writer and clearly a lover of nature rather than someone out to prove his ultra-fitness or mountaineering expertise -- a large number of the hikes are very modest outings suitable for young children or the elderly. Just one major criticism: some strange inclusions and exclusions for a book with Denver/Boulder in the title. A number of hikes in Steamboat Springs and Wyoming are included, for instance -- both are a very sizable drive from anywhere on the Colorado front range except perhaps Fort Collins. Yet some truly awesome and popular hikes much closer to Denver/Boulder are excluded: 4th of July trailhead hikes west of Boulder are an especially glaring omission, as some of the most spectacular hiking in the country originates there. (Perhaps Apt wants to keep that increasingly popular area as much of a secret as possible.) Another strange omission, given Apt's somewhat Fort Collins-centric approach, are any of the trails in the main part of State Forest west of Fort Collins: anything north of route 14.

I loved this book. The Afoot and Afield series is a great series, and this is one of the best books in the series. The author is obviously somebody who has spent many, many hours "afoot in the field," and this book is like having a happy, knowledgeable, easy to be with hiking companion. Well worth the price. Well worth picking up and keeping for many, many hours of hiking pleasure. I hike a lot, and this book has added depth and feeling and expertise to my outings. I really liked it. Appreciate its details and overviews. I can highly recommend it.

I have a bookcase full of books on hiking in Colorado. But when I'm looking to choose a hike, this is the first book I grab out of my stuffed bookcase. Why? It has a lot of variety to it: nearby hikes and hikes a bit of a drive away; challenging hikes and easy hikes; popular hikes and those off the beaten trail a bit. The descriptions are perfect. You know what to expect before you get there (so you can select hikes that fit your companions' abilities) and the directions are easy to understand and follow. This is the best hiking book I've ever owned. That's why I've bought it as a gift for others. I highly recommend it.

Fans of Alan Apt's "Snowshoe Routes - Colorado's Front Range" will be anxious to see his latest accounting of the best outdoors adventures that Colorado has to offer. The book contains all of the great hikes in Colorado and many enticing but lesser-known ones as well. The author is a stickler for detail and provides comprehensive information and coherent maps for every described trail. If you could only have one Colorado hiking book, it would be hard to find a better one.

If you're a hiker/walker/trekker/explorer and just love to be in the great outdoors, you'll love this book on Colorado trails. I've been an outdoor guide for the past thirty years and have led people on trips in more than 30 areas around the world. It's important for me to have a trail guide that's accurate, concise and informative. Alan Apt's book is all of that and more. If you've always wanted to explore some of Colorado's many outstanding outdoor areas, you'll want this book for your library!

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