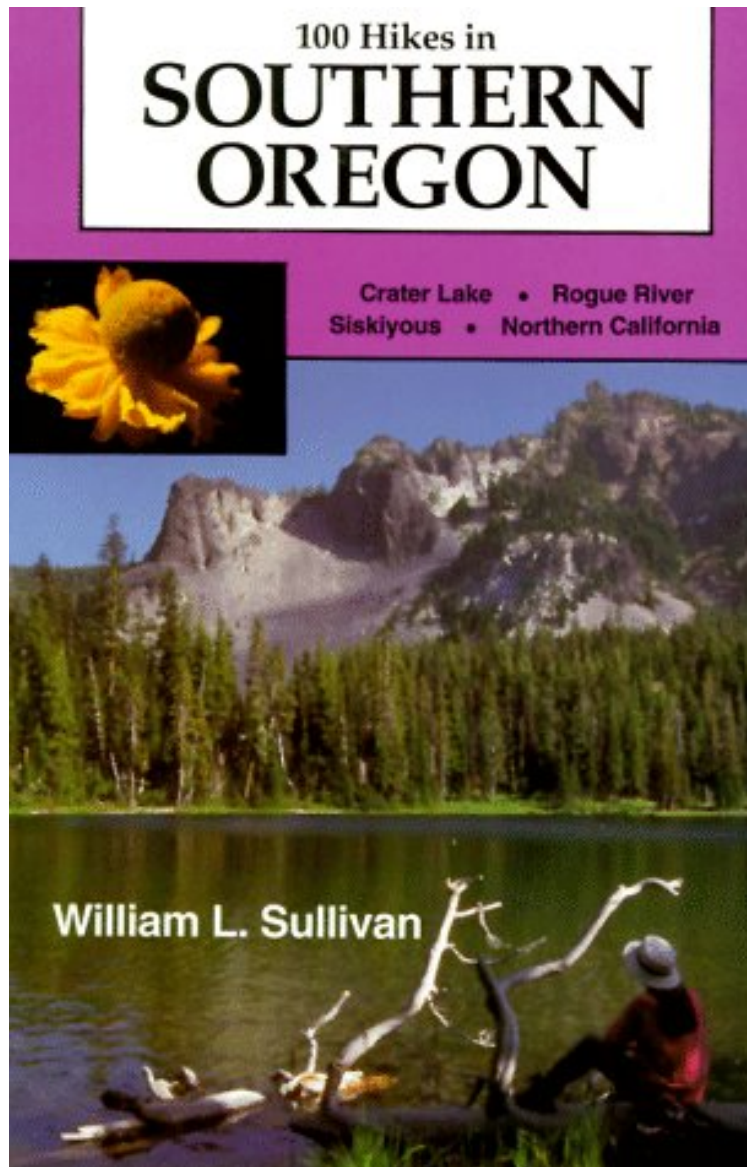


[Pdf free] 100 Hikes in Southern Oregon

## 100 Hikes in Southern Oregon

*William L. Sullivan*

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Welcome to the spectacular trails of Southern Oregon and adjacent Northern California! This comprehensive guide proves there's more to this scenic region than just Crater Lake National Park, the Rogue River, and Mt. Shasta. Come discover a hot springs in the hills behind Roseburg, a wildflower mecca near Ashland, and a historic cabin in the Trinity Alps. All of the trips are well suited for day hikers, but you'll also find 48 routes recommended for backpackers, 22 trails for mountain bikers, and 59 paths for equestrians. And don't hang up your hiking boots in winter. Special symbols identify 24 trails that are open all year. The book features a variety of difficulty levels. If you're hiking with children, look for the symbols identifying 54 carefully chosen kids' hikes -- trips that are easy enough for the whole family. Advanced hikers, on the other hand, can choose from 40 unabashedly difficult treks. And if you really want to get away from it all, a list at the back of the book describes 100 MORE hikes in Southern Oregon -- little-known but intriguing treks for adventurous spirits.

About the Author William L. Sullivan is the author of six books and numerous articles about Oregon, including a regular outdoor column for Eugene Weekly. A fifth-generation Oregonian, Sullivan began hiking at the age of five and has been exploring new trails ever since. After receiving an English degree from Cornell University and studying at Germany's Heidelberg University, he earned an M.A. from the University of Oregon. In 1985 Sullivan set out to investigate Oregon's wilderness on a 1,361-mile solo backpacking trek from the state's westernmost shore at Cape Blanco to Oregon's easternmost point in Hells Canyon. His journal of that two-month adventure, published as "Listening for Coyote," was a finalist for the Oregon Book Award in creative nonfiction. Since then he has authored a popular series of "100 Hikes" guidebooks to the regions of Oregon. Other titles in the series are "100 Hikes in Northwest Oregon," covering Mt. Hood, the Columbia Gorge, Mt. St. Helens, and the Portland area; "100 Hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades," covering the Three Sisters, Mt. Jefferson, Bend, and Eugene areas; and "100 Hikes/Travel Guide: Oregon Coast Coast Range," describing not only the hiking trails of the scenic Pacific shore, but also the campgrounds, beaches, lighthouses, aquariums, canoeing/kayaking options, bicycle paths, and birdwatching sites. He and his wife Janell live in Eugene, but spend summers in a log cabin they built by hand on a roadless stretch of Oregon's Siletz River. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. Hike #86, Rogue River Trail East Easy (to Whisky Creek) 7 miles round-trip 300 feet elevation gain Open all year Maps: Mt. Reuben, Bunker Hill (USGS) Difficult (Grave Creek to Marial) 23.2 miles one way 2800 feet elevation gain Additional maps: Kelsey Creek, Marial (USGS) At times the irascible Rogue River idles along in lazy green pools, but elsewhere it's misty mayhem, plunging over Rainie Falls or boiling through Mule Creek Canyon's Coffeepot. During the peak whitewater season from May 15 to October 15, the 40-mile stretch between Grave Creek and Illahe has become such a popular float trip for kayakers and rafters that the Forest Service holds a lottery to issue 10,000 permits from 90,000 applications. But why not hike through this spectacular river canyon instead? The 40-mile Rogue River Trail offers the same scenery without the crowds or the permit hassles. This eastern section of the famous trail begins with a 3.5-mile jaunt that's easy enough for hikers with children. From Grave Creek, the route passes Rainie Falls' frothy 15-foot cascade and leads to the Whisky Creek Cabin, a gold miner's shack from 1880 restored as a rustic museum. Backpackers continuing west should bring stoves because campfires are only allowed within 400 feet of the river if they're kept in firepans. At night, hang food at least 10 feet high and 5 feet from a tree trunk to discourage black bears. To find the eastern trailhead at the Grave Creek bridge, take Interstate 5 north of Grants Pass 18 miles (or south of Roseburg 48 miles) to Wolf Creek exit 76, drive half a mile to the Wolf Creek Tavern, turn off into town 2 blocks, go under a railroad overpass, turn left, and follow this paved road 15 miles. Just before the Grave Creek bridge, turn right to a boat ramp and trail parking area. Mossy, gnarled canyon live oak trees provide spots of shade along the trail. Western fence lizards do push-ups on rocks, warning other lizards away from their territory. Expect tall blue wildflowers in May: cluster lily and 6-petaled elegant brodiaea. Beware of poison oak along the trail. At 0.2 mile the path overlooks Grave Creek Rapids, a rock-walled chute where boaters flail. After 1.2 miles, a trailside high-water mark commemorates the 1964 flood's crest, 55 feet above normal river level. Just beyond are the cement piers of Sanderson's Bridge, a miner's mule bridge from 1907 swept away by a 1927 flood. In another 0.6 mile, a short fork to the left leads to the shore beside Rainie Falls. Most boats are lined around the falls on a channel blasted out of the rock for migrating fish. Daring souls in large rubber rafts sometimes run the falls without flipping. Continue on the main trail 1.6 miles, pass a cluster of popular

campsites at a sandy beach, and then cross Whisky Creek on a footbridge. Here a spur to the right leads up to the historic 2-room log cabin, with its collection of rusty mining memorabilia. Note the 1890 flume ditch just uphill. Backpackers continuing to Marial will find the Rogue River Trail mostly traverses rocky slopes high above the river. Just 0.4 mile past Whisky Creek is Big Slide Camp, a quiet riverside tent area where a late 1800s landslide briefly dammed the Rogue, backing it up 15 miles. Attractions farther down the trail include Horseshoe Bend's dramatic river loop, Western author Zane Grey's (private) log cabin at Winkle Bar, and the restored 1903 Rogue River Ranch museum beside the Marial trailhead. To shuttle a car to Marial from the Grave Creek trailhead, turn left on the Mt. Reuben Road and follow signs 38.7 miles to Marial, mostly along narrow, winding gravel roads. For a description of the Rogue River Trail's next section, the 15 miles from Marial to Illahe, see Hike #85. OTHER OPTIONS The Rogue River Trail traverses sunny south-facing slopes that can be dizzyingly hot in August. For a cooler summer jaunt, park on the shoulder at the south end of the Grave Creek bridge and take the shady South Shore River Trail. It ends in 1.9 miles at a better viewpoint of Rainie Falls than the north shore offers. If you'd really rather float the Rogue usually a 3-day whitewater trip from Grave Creek to Illahe write for permit information to the Rand Visitor Center, 14335 Galice Highway, Merlin, OR 97532, or call (541) 479-3735.