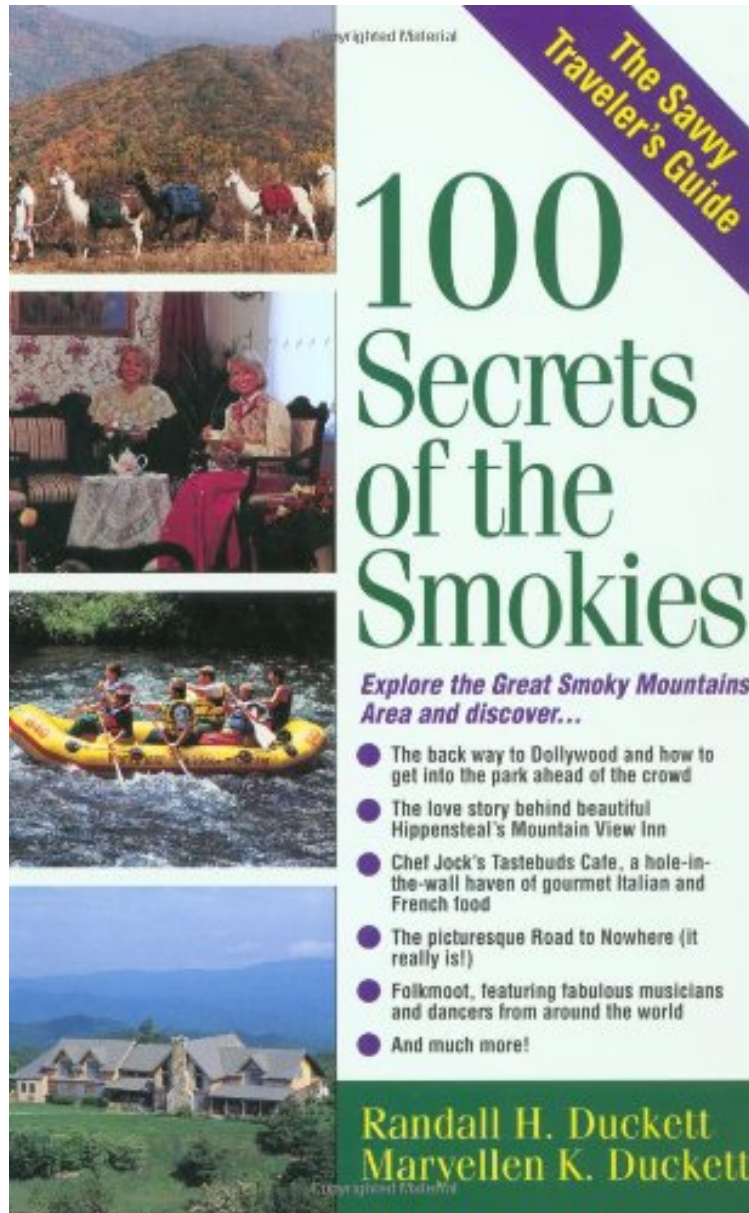


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## 100 Secrets of the Smokies: A Savvy Traveler's Guide (The Savvy Traveler's Guide)

Randall Duckett, Maryellen Duckett  
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**Randall Duckett, Maryellen Duckett : 100 Secrets of the Smokies: A Savvy Traveler's Guide (The Savvy Traveler's Guide)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 100 Secrets of the Smokies: A Savvy Traveler's Guide (The Savvy Traveler's Guide):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. outdated and a little misleading  
By James Cornall  
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.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. bought this book 15 years ago. This one was ...  
By Michael Allums  
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.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.  
Smokies 100 Secrets  
By Fourguy  
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.

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.