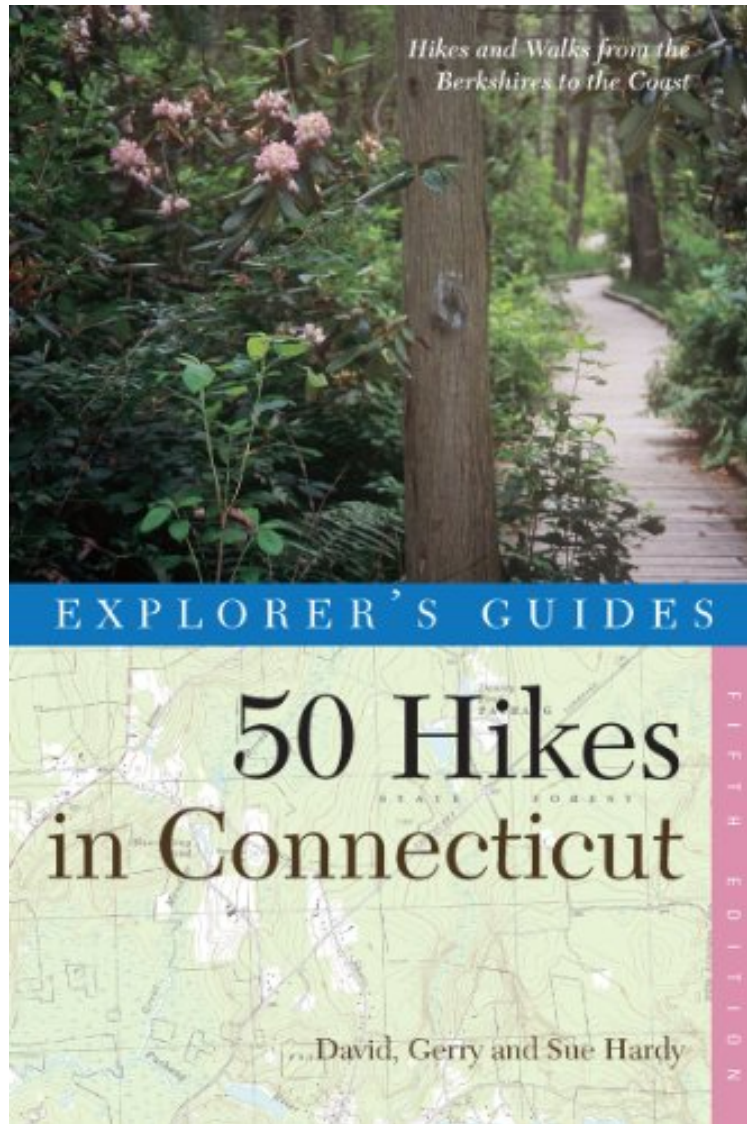


50 Hikes in Connecticut: Hikes and Walks from the Berkshires to the Coast, Fifth Edition

David Hardy, Gerry Hardy, Sue Hardy
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David Hardy, Gerry Hardy, Sue Hardy : 50 Hikes in Connecticut: Hikes and Walks from the Berkshires to the Coast, Fifth Edition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 50 Hikes in Connecticut: Hikes and Walks from the Berkshires to the Coast, Fifth Edition:

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Are Better Hiking Guides for Connecticut By My Two Cents Instead of buying this book, I recommend instead buying "Hiking Southern New England" for reasons I detail in my review of that book. 50 Hikes in Connecticut is best used by armchair travelers who want an idea of where they might want to go hiking. The strength of this book is that it describes a variety of good areas in Connecticut for hiking with mileages ranging from easy to extended. The book also provides a bit of history for each area, along with natural features and suggested trails. Trying to actually use this book to do a hike is an exercise in frustration. I am an experienced volunteer hike leader and I have difficulty following the descriptions in this book, in part because the narrative jumps from which trail to use to the flora and fauna along the way. Finding a hike is also a challenge because the hikes are arranged by length, not geographic area. If you plan to use this book for hiking, I would recommend obtaining a detailed map of the area, and sitting down with the map, and writing out the directions from the book on a separate piece of paper. For any hike involving a Connecticut state park, I strongly recommend downloading and printing a full-color state park map, which shows all the trails and roads in the park. Visit the website at <http://www.ct.gov/deep/site/default.asp> and click on "Parks and Forests". If the hikes use Blue-Blazed Trails that are not in state parks, be sure to use the maps and descriptions from the Connecticut Walk Book: West or Connecticut Walk Book: East. For other areas, I would recommend obtaining the latest copy of the map, whether online or at the trailhead. There are hundreds of trails in Connecticut, and this provides a sampling of them, but some major hiking areas are excluded, including West Rock Ridge State Park in Hamden/New Haven, Trout Brook Valley in Easton/Weston, and Kettletown State Park in Southbury, and the Paugussett State Forest in Newtown.

A fully revised edition of the classic hiking guide to Connecticut. Leave the densely populated southeast coast behind to explore the woods and hills of this beautiful state. Connecticut boasts a diversity of parks, sanctuaries, hills, woodlands, and wetlands. This fifth edition has been fully revised and updated by David Hardy, the son of the original authors. He has added new hikes to Falls Village, Dinosaur State Park, Devils Den, Bigelow Hollow in Nipmuck and revised many more. The hikes range in length from 1 to 13 miles, and an overview chart makes it easy to choose a hike at a glance. Each chapter includes a topographic map, information on mileage and rise, a detailed trail description, and a wealth of information on natural and human history you'll encounter along the way. 5 new hikes in this edition. 40 black-and-white photographs, 51 maps

About the Author David Hardy is a regional field assistant for Vermont's Green Mountain Club. Raised in Connecticut, he leads hikes and performs trail maintenance across New England. He lives in Moscow, Vermont. Gerry and Sue Hardy, who wrote the first three editions of this guide, received the Appalachian Mountain Club's 1989 Distinguished Service Award. Residents of Manchester, they have been exploring and writing about the Connecticut countryside for years.