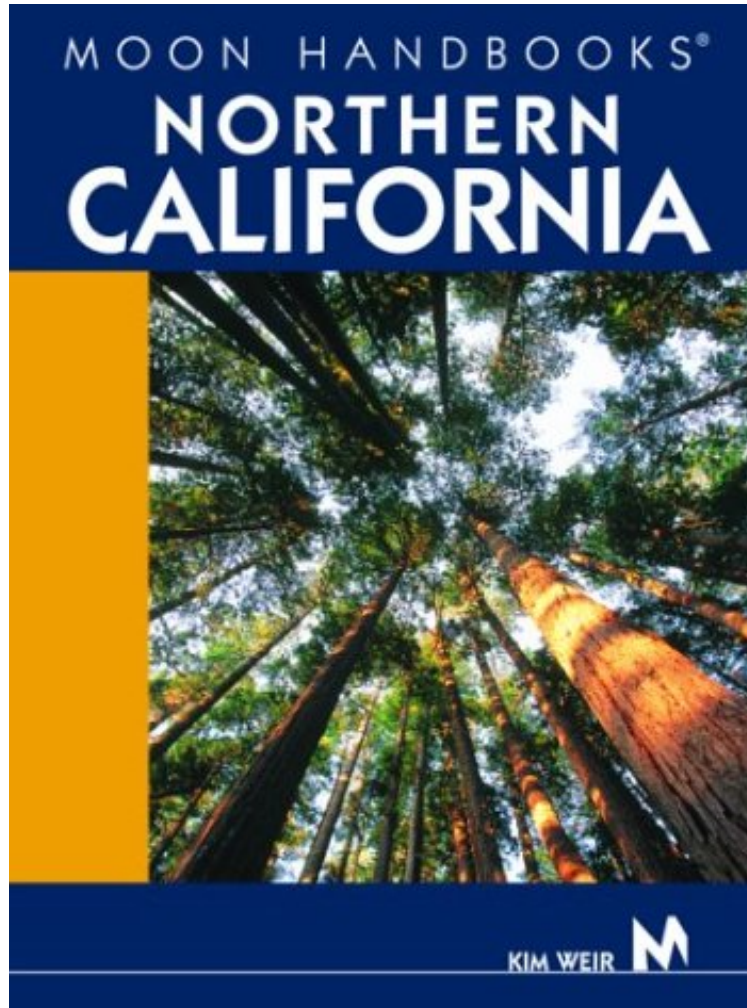


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Moon Handbooks Northern California

Kim Weir

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Kim Weir : Moon Handbooks Northern California before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Moon Handbooks Northern California:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Our Favorite, Bar NoneBy BrookeThis 2004 Moon edition is terrific. If you want to know history and background and info about little towns and cities along your route, this is the book. We live in the SF Bay Area, are retired and travel often in the state. We use the Northern California for day trips, or for overnights. We love it. We just returned from Southern California and used Kim Weir's 2006 Moon edition. We did everything mentioned in Pasadena and Long Beach, many things in Los Angeles, and all in the Santa Barbara area. In both books we always find a town or attraction to see that we wouldn't have visited otherwise. They are like having a tour guide or a local to show you California Get the AAA No. and So. Calif. books for updated hotels and restaurants and you are good to go!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Comprehensive, but would

like more opinionated text

By Sarah I bought this guide, plus Moon Northern California Camping: The Complete Guide to Tent and RV Camping (Moon Outdoors) and Foghorn Outdoors California Hiking: The Complete Guide to More Than 1,000 Hikes (Foghorn Outdoors). I like that it specializes in No. Calif. I wish it were a little more opinionated and would highlight the MUST-SEE attractions, e.g., see this/don't bother with that/that's a MUST-SEE/that's a little hokey. But overall, it's a good companion to the other two books above.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

Northern California: Moon Handbooks

By Barney Considine I especially like the Moon travel guidebooks published by Avalon Travel. There are twenty on my shelf of travel books; two for Utah canyonlands and the rest covering states. All except one (Southern California) have proven to be good sources of information. They are sufficiently different from the travel books published by the American Automobile Association that the two work well together. In general, the Moon books cover the attractions better and AAA is better for lodging. However, Moon sometimes comes up with that historic hotel or unique coffee shop that AAA misses.

California is a huge state with a lot of people. Understandably, it has a lot of attractions, places to stay, and opportunities for eating. No guidebook can cover everything. Moon does a better job than many of the others. Other guidebooks often focus on the major population centers and shortchange rural communities. Moon does well on the larger cities as well, but is often the best place to look for information about smaller towns.

For example, my wife and I are birders. We used Moon to plan a trip from Red Bluff on back roads up through Fall River Mills and Canby into the Klamath Basin wildlife refuges. It was a great two-day trip with interesting attractions, excellent birding, and good eats.

Typically, the Moon Handbooks will aid travelers with attractions, lodging, food, recreation, entertainment, and history. Their directions for finding attractions are usually clear, including the hours of availability and cost. Where appropriate, there are descriptions of hiking and biking trails, state parks and monuments, federal and state forests, fishing, festivals, and many other special interests. Often, Moon will provide the story behind the attraction. The books are arranged by section and the locales within a section are presented in the order that a traveler might be passing through. There is a map at the beginning of each section and more detailed maps of major communities.

Regardless of whether you are planning a trip or using it as a reference as you tour, the Moon Handbook for Northern California will serve you well.

A word of warning: this review is based on the Fourth Edition authored by Kim Weir. There is a later edition that I haven't seen. It was written by Liz Hamill Scott who is also the author of Southern California: Moon Handbooks, Fourth Edition, 2009. Unfortunately, that Southern California edition falls far short of the standard set by all other Moon Handbooks I have seen. Hopefully, that will be remedied in a future revision.

If you're planning a family camping vacation in the Coastal Redwoods, a romantic weekend of culinary delicacies and drink in the Wine Country, or a rigorous hiking trip in the Sierra Nevada, Moon Handbooks Northern California provides all the essentials you need and want. Detailing the entire region the Del Norte-Humboldt Coast, Mendocino and Sonoma Coasts, Sonoma and Napa Valley, Lake Tahoe, Yosemite, the San Francisco Bay Area, Monterey Bay and Peninsula, and the Central Coast the updated fourth edition offers coverage of major cities and attractions, as well as undiscovered gems. Acclaimed California travel author Kim Weir provides fresh coverage of outdoor recreation, entertainment, events, accommodation, and dining options for all tastes and budgets, along with color maps, photos and illustrations, and an in-depth look at regional history and culture. From the trails of Mount Shasta to the finish line of the World Championship Cross-Country Kinetic Sculpture Race, Moon Handbooks Northern California will help you find the perfect destination.

"The rarest of travel books--both a practical guide to the region and a map of its soul."