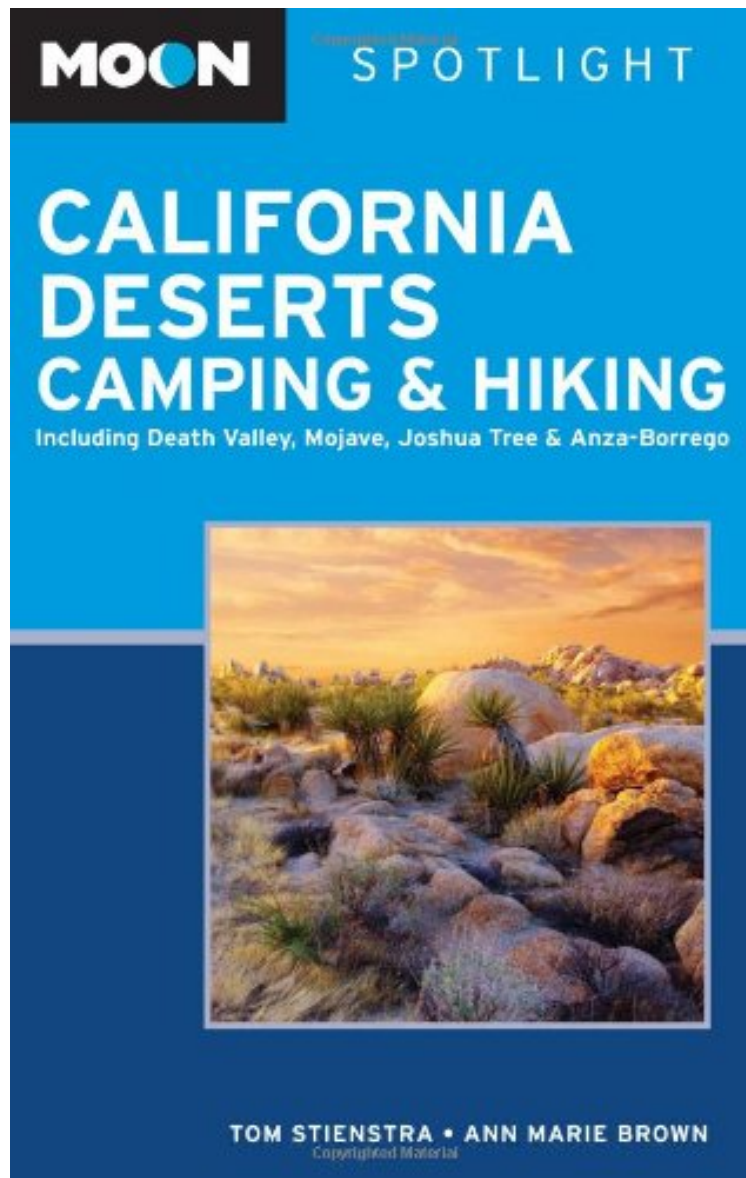


[E-BOOK] Moon Spotlight California Deserts Camping and Hiking: Including Death Valley, Mojave, Joshua Tree, and Anza-Borrego

Moon Spotlight California Deserts Camping and Hiking: Including Death Valley, Mojave, Joshua Tree, and Anza-Borrego

Tom Stienstra, Ann Marie Brown

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Tom Stienstra, Ann Marie Brown : Moon Spotlight California Deserts Camping and Hiking: Including Death Valley, Mojave, Joshua Tree, and Anza-Borrego before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Moon Spotlight California Deserts Camping and Hiking: Including Death Valley, Mojave, Joshua Tree, and Anza-Borrego:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Combining Two of the Best Moon Guidebooks By Fritz R. Ward
Moon Outdoors is the publisher of two of the most popular guidebooks ever written. California Hiking is widely viewed as a hiker's bible and contains over 1,000 of the best trails in the state. The companion volume, California Camping is equally popular. The only problem with these two books is that they are bulky. When you are covering a state the size of California a thick size and small print are somewhat unavoidable side effects. The editors at Moon have tried to rectify that situation by publishing a new series of "Spotlight" guides which combine relevant chapters from the above two books into one substantially smaller guidebook describing a specific region of California. This volume deals with the California deserts. Stretching from Death Valley in the North to Anza Borrego and the Salton Sea in the south, this little volume is far more comprehensive than its slim size would imply. It describes 94 campgrounds, including several of the increasingly rare "free" BLM campgrounds and 52 hikes. I've completed all but 8 of the hiking routes so I can warmly recommend them. The hikes in Joshua Tree are the best, with those in Anza Borrego coming in a close second. Steinstra's campground descriptions are hilarious. Many guidebooks list locations, number of sites, fees, etc, but where else will you discover that Texas Spring Campground has bathrooms that are on the National Historic Register? Who else would offer alternately condolences or congratulations for camping at Corn Springs south of Joshua Tree? In short, this is a useful book and a fun read. By way of a minor criticism, it is worth noting that the hiking and camping portions of this guidebook do not completely overlap. Steinstra lists several campgrounds in the Angeles National Forest including some on Sawmill and Liebre Mountains near the Pacific Crest Trail. There are no hiking counterparts to those areas in the hiking portion of the book. But the larger question to be asked is, should you buy the "Spotlight" guides or should you buy the classic (and best selling) books noted above? Obviously buying all the Spotlight guides would be considerably more expensive than just purchasing the current editions of California Hiking and California Camping. But, if you are a desert rat wanna be, it would be hard to argue with owning this book. You will find literally years worth of recreation and exploration in a light 98 pages.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good material By elgreco
As with the other Moon books, I find this book easy to read and informative. No one book could be the end all but this one does a good, concise and thorough review of places to visit, conditions and surround areas to assist one in the planning and preparation for a trip to these locales. I feel more prepared and excited because of this book's approach and content.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Dale
I am very Pleased

Moon Spotlight California Deserts Camping and Hiking is a 125-page compact guide covering California's famously photographic deserts including Death Valley, the Mojave, Joshua Tree and Anza-Borrego perfect for campers or hikers looking for a back-country campsite or a place to pitch a tent. Each camp listing has at-a-glance icons that indicate nearby hiking or biking trails, swimming, fishing, boating, canoeing, kayaking and hot springs. You'll also learn what campsites and trails allow dogs. Hiking descriptions include distance, estimated hiking time, and a rating for difficulty. Easy-to-follow maps and clear driving directions lead campers and hikers to the best of California's deserts. This Spotlight guidebook is excerpted from Moon California Camping and Moon California Hiking.

About the Author For 30 years, Tom Stienstra's full-time job has been to capture and communicate the outdoor experience. This has led him across California hiking, boating, fishing, camping, biking, and flying searching for the best of the outdoors and then writing about it. Tom is the nation's top-selling author of outdoors guidebooks. He has been inducted into the California Outdoor Hall of Fame and has twice been awarded National Outdoor Writer of the Year, newspaper division, by the Outdoor Writers Association of America. He has also been named California Outdoor Writer of the Year five times, most recently in 2007. Tom is the outdoors columnist for the San Francisco Chronicle; his articles also appear in newspapers around the country. He broadcasts a weekly radio show on KCBS-San Francisco and hosts an outdoor television show on CBS/CW San Francisco. Tom lives with his wife and sons in Northern California. The author of 12 outdoor guidebooks, Ann Marie Brown is a dedicated California outdoorswoman. She hikes, bikes, and camps more than 150 days each year in a committed effort to avoid routine, complacency, and getting a real job. Ann Marie's work has appeared in Sunset, VIA, and Backpacker magazines. As a way of giving back a little of what she gets from her experiences in nature, she writes and edits for several environmental groups, including the Sierra Club and the Natural Resources Defense Council. When not cycling along a California trail, Ann Marie resides near Lake Tahoe.