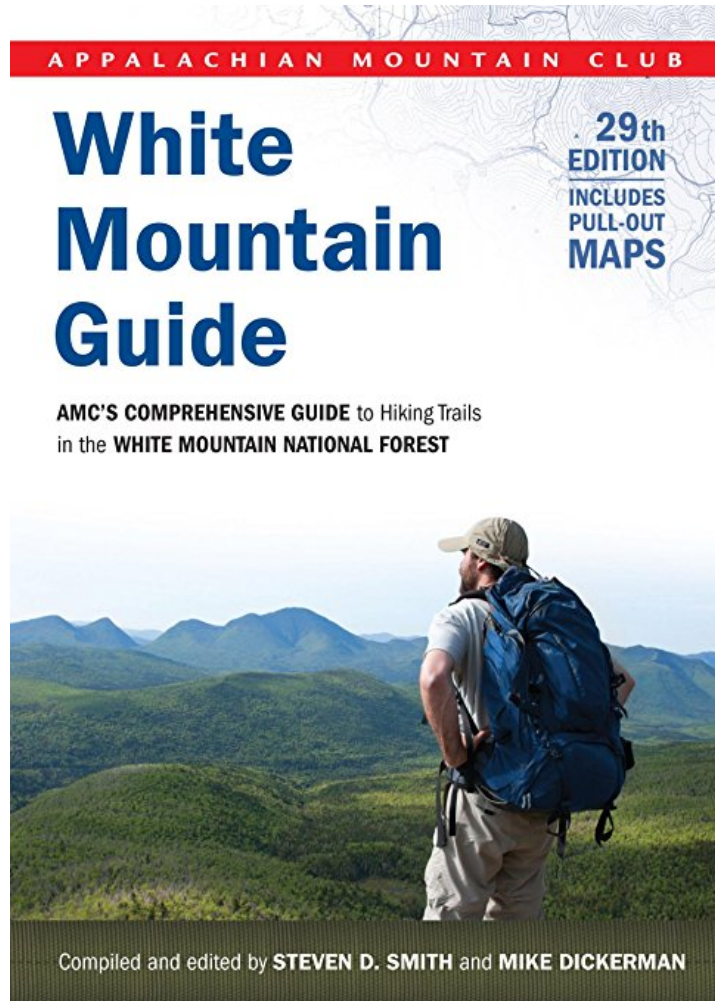


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AMC White Mountain Guide, 29th Edition



Customer Reviews

Could not wait for this to come out. The trail info, the maps and the book are just what one needs to plan that adventure to the whites. The book now has new info that captures all the changes since the major washout from Irene in 2011. Lots of trails were impacted and the book has the new info. The write ups are well written and key to planning out a day hike, overnighter, a presidential traverse, a pemi traverse, or the dreaded Owl's Head death march. If you hike the whites and have just one book to pick from, this is the one. Steve Smith can sign it if you visit his book shop in Lincoln; great guy and an ambassador to the Whites.

This is the MUST-HAVE hiking guidebook for all serious hikers in the White Mountains. You will not find a better or more accurate hiking guidebook to the WMNF. As a side-note, the maps are incredibly detailed and extremely useable, but you may find that you will want to supplement the provided maps with a waterproof one. The AMC maps are somewhat fragile since they are paper-based. This 2012 29th edition is better than ever. Cannot recommend it enough!

The White Mountain Guide remains as detailed and specific as ever. I recently updated from the 24th edition (1987) to the 29th (2011) and was not disappointed with the White Mountains content, which is specific and helpful. However, two provisos given the above-stated excellence: 1. AMC has apparently given up on portability. My 1987 edition was pocket size with thin paper: clearly designed for the trail if need be. Not so the 2011 edition. It is frankly bulky, even heavy, and unnecessarily (to my mind) large. I will not be taking this book on the trail with me! 2. The coverage of the book has decreased since 1987. All trails south of Squam Lake (and some to the north) require purchase of a separate book. Crowd pleasing mountains Cardigan and Monadnock no longer feature in the guide. Yet the new edition is much larger and heavier than in 1987! I would urge AMC to reconsider the guide's portability- every ounce counts on the trail- and reconsider excluding the most popular hikes south of Squam Lake. Otherwise, I may stick to my handy 24th edition!

I admit - anything about the White Mountains is already a winner in my book, and as far as I'm concerned, the AMC can do no wrong. I guess in this instance I'm not the most objective reviewer. But this book is truly perfect! Really! I swear! This most recent guide is fabulous, as always. The trail descriptions are accurate, very detailed, and the three included maps (front and back) are easy to read and follow. I used them just a few weeks ago during a 5-day trip in the Whites, and I was very pleased. There is a lot of general info, as well, aside from the trail descriptions - history (natural and

local), weather, hiking safety info, etc... The book is large, so I ended up copying only the pages I wanted to carry along in my pack. Perhaps they might want to think about converting to a ring binder book, as the CT Blue Trails books do: Connecticut Walk Book West: The Guide to the Blue-Blazed Hiking Trails of Western Connecticut, Including the Metacomet and Mattabesett Trails. I still copy those pages anyway (and enlarge them), but the binder makes it easier to accomplish that. Plus you can insert and keep notes, clippings, other info securely within the book. My only recommendation is that they just do away with the paper maps and start including the waterproof ones with the guide instead. One waterproof map on its own is 10 bucks at the AMC @ Pinkham Notch. So basically you might end up re-buying the maps. The Appalachian Trail Conservancy just includes the waterproof ones with their guides, which is smart. I'd prefer not to have duplicate maps. Anyway, this is THE definitive White Mountain guide. Accept no imitations!

This guide book has helped me plan several successful adventures into the White Mountains. The maps are good for planning for extended backpacking trips or for just a day hike. They may not be as detailed of a map as I wanted at first but they contain the basic route of every trail and the book more than fills in the blanks. The book contains a very detailed account of what seems like all of the trails in the White Mountain region. I would recommend this book to anyone who is new to the white mountains, it has helped me plan successful trips in the past and will continue to help me on the adventures to come!

I was soooooo happy to get this in. When they say "comprehensive" they aren't kidding. From the written descriptions to the included maps, you almost feel like you know the terrain without being there. Be sure always too to check out their website for updates on safe passage of trails and other pertinent information when planning a hike no matter how short or long it may be and always carry this with you for a guide once you're out on the trails.

I have considered this book to be The Bible since many editions ago. If that sounds overstated, consider that this book could save your life by helping you plan a safe hike in the White Mountains (which themselves deserve 5 stars). The AMC updates the trail descriptions and the maps every few years, and I always try to have the latest when planning a trip. The book itself is rather heavy for carrying up a 4000 footer, so I usually either (1) photocopy the pages of interest to bring on the hike, or (2) just read the description in the book prior to the hike. The maps are of excellent quality, and very suitable for bringing on the hike. I think that waterproof versions of the maps are also available

for extra money, but I haven't bothered with those - just keep the regular maps out of the rain.

Happy hiking.

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