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# Kissing The Trail: NW & Central Oregon Mountain Bike Trails



## Synopsis

Looking for the best singletrack in Oregon? You've found the right book. *Kissing the Trail: NW & Central Oregon* obsessively catalogs 84 mountain bike rides near Portland, Hood River, Bend, Oakridge and Eugene. It's got all the classic trails, like McKenzie River, Surveyors Ridge, Waldo Lake, Alpine, Mrazek, Phils, Newberry Crater, Post Canyon and lots more. This second edition includes more than a dozen new rides, including Farewell, North-Fork Flagline, Scappoose and two North Umpqua epics. This is stuff that no other guidebook for Oregon has. It's cram-packed with lots of new photos, making it easy to select a great ride that's just right. Or plan a long weekend full of riding. The maps, too, are more carefully created and more mountain-bike specific than any other Oregon guidebook. They note GPS coordinates and elevation profiles in addition to all the relevant road and trail names. So when you get the itch to head out and explore the trails in Oregon, or even just dream about it, this is your book.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Zilly's been on a lot of trails. Author of 11 guidebooks, he's ridden, written about, and mapped over 500 trails across the west. And sampled many more. He grew up hiking in Washington's Cascades and Olympics and, at age 19, spent 10 months touring the country by bicycle. He now writes, rides and obsesses over maps from a home base in Seattle.

The price of this book gave me a millisecond of pause, but here's the deal: it's worth several times as much as the \$20 (\$19.95) you'll plop down for it. Bit of background: I'm an intermediate rider in

good physical condition, with no aspirations to learn how to bunny hop over picnic tables or take of trial riding. The list of positives for this book includes great maps, good directions to trail heads, rating systems for fitness challenge and technical challenge that are consistent and accurate, and a very useful "Who Will Like This Ride" prologue to each ride description. Examples: "Families and Single Track Virgins" for a gentle meander, or "You Love the Smell of Burning Lungs in the Morning" for a grunt of a ride. The descriptions are carefully done, with mileage markers that clearly describe where to turn, where NOT to turn, all of which in real life use (yes, the book is small enough to pack with you on your ride) have repeatedly saved me from getting flummoxed. The range of rides contained in the book (84 in all) include pancake flat 2-4 milers for families with young kids, or first-timers, to epics with many thousands of feet in elevation gain and over the half century mark in distance. There are several mountain biking books that describe Central Oregon off road riding, I think I own them all. Bypass the more pedestrian versions, go straight to the Porsche Carrerra of the genre: Kissing the Trail.

So far I have done one of the trails listed in this book, but I was VERY pleased with the outcome! Easy directions to the trailhead and clear maps of the trails. What was a real life saver for me was the detailed, mile marked, trail descriptions and GPS mark points! Without those I would of MOST definitely had gotten lost as these trails are not usually point to point. With the GPS I just downloaded the FREE 'GPS Essentials' app onto my Android and boom I had a full on GPS device that I could use in conjunction with the book. I have to say I am very pleased and look forward to trying out the other 83 trails the book has to offer.

Great variety of rides, good details of locations and good rides. Thanks!

A good selection of rides for the Portland area. The best comprehensive guide for the area I've found. The rides are well researched. I can't wait to explore them.

Really helpful, good info and maps. Descriptions are what sets it apart. This guy has done his homework. Highly recommended.

I just glanced at it; but the person who received it for a gift was glad to have it and is excited to try some of the trails this coming year.

Awesome detail on an awesome set of trails.

When you use this book in conjunction with COTA's awesome maps, as a guest checking out Bend, this combo will make you feel like a local when riding our trails. LOVE IT, which is why both items are in all of the vacation rentals that I manage!

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