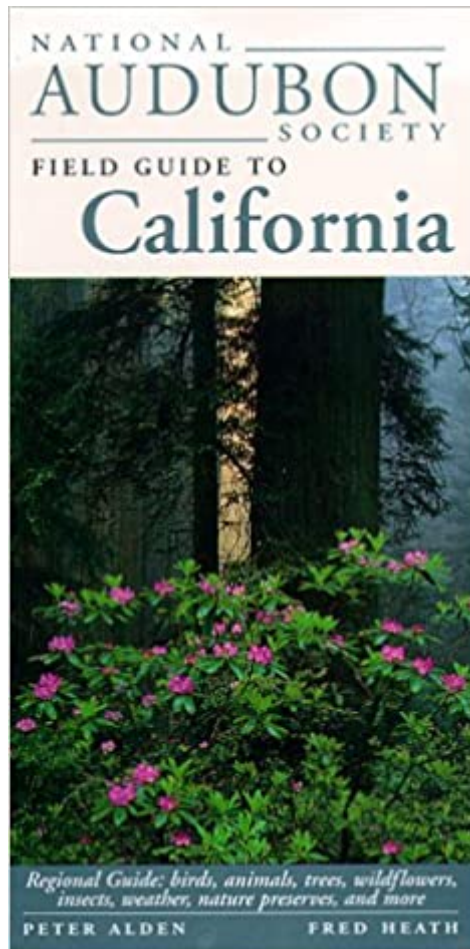




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National Audubon Society Field Guide To California



Synopsis

The most comprehensive field guide available to the flora and fauna of California--a portable, essential companion for visitors and residents alike--from the go-to reference source for over 18 million nature lovers. This compact volume contains: An easy-to-use field guide for identifying 1,000 of the state's wildflowers, trees, mushrooms, mosses, fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, butterflies, mammals, and much more; A complete overview of California's natural history, covering geology, wildlife habitats, ecology, fossils, rocks and minerals, clouds and weather patterns and night sky; An extensive sampling of the area's best parks, preserves, beaches, forests, islands, and wildlife sanctuaries, with detailed descriptions and visitor information for 50 sites and notes on dozens of others. The guide is packed with visual information -- the 1,500 full-color images include more than 1,300 photographs, 14 maps, and 16 night-sky charts, as well as 150 drawings explaining everything from geological processes to the basic features of different plants and animals.

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Customer Reviews

California natives and visitors alike will appreciate this compact, photo-filled overview of the Golden State's natural history. Along with a summary of geography, geology, weather, and wildlife, there is a field guide to the identification of 1,000 of the state's unique inhabitants, including the smallest butterfly in the world (the Western Pygmy Blue), the largest animal (the Blue Whale), and one of the largest living single organisms (the Giant Sequoia). What's more, some of the best places to see this diversity of flora and fauna--the many parks, preserves, beaches, forests, islands, and wildlife sanctuaries--are listed with detailed information. To flip through the guide's pages is to envision

endless possibilities for scenic and educational field trips, from fog-shrouded Point Reyes National Seashore to the barren salt pan of Death Valley National Park.

Filled with concise descriptions and stunning photographs, the National Audubon Society Field Guide to California belongs in the home of every California resident and in the suitcase or backpack of every visitor. This compact volume contains: An easy-to-use field guide for identifying 1,000 of the state's wildflowers, trees, mushrooms, mosses, fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, butterflies, mammals, and much more; A complete overview of California's natural history, covering geology, wildlife habitats, ecology, fossils, rocks and minerals, clouds and weather patterns and night sky; An extensive sampling of the area's best parks, preserves, beaches, forests, islands, and wildlife sanctuaries, with detailed descriptions and visitor information for 50 sites and notes on dozens of others. The guide is packed with visual information -- the 1,500 full-color images include more than 1,300 photographs, 14 maps, and 16 night-sky charts, as well as 150 drawings explaining everything from geological processes to the basic features of different plants and animals. For everyone who lives or spends time in California, there can be no finer guide to the area's natural surroundings than the National Audubon Society Field Guide to California.

This is not the version pictured. I have ordered this twice and feel the first time the picture matched, but I don't know how shares reviews since often it seems several different products share the same review. Anyways, this is the version with three pictures on front. A mountain lion, poppies, a golden eagle, and a forest. Have to retract a star due to current mismatch, but the book itself is great, if not the version you might expect. Every Californian should own one of these. This is about half as thick as a bird book, but covers all other subjects one might want. It is not a complete reference for any subject it contains, but it is more than thorough enough to be a proper field guide. I, personally, have swapped to a bird app for hikes. I use this book to cover everything else as there is not yet anything remotely worth while in an app that covers all. It includes: Topography, Geology, Habitats, Conservation/Ecology, Weather, Constellations/the night sky, Flora/Fauna: trees, plants, algae, lichen, mushrooms, ferns, wildflowers, invertebrates: spiders, insects, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, California's parks and useful information regarding them. The freshwater fish section seems a little lacking, covering game fish for some reason and excluding proper pages on things like pupfish, chubs, etc. Also the section on rocks/minerals. The other sections feel more complete as a portable guide. In any case, grab this book and then later buff up on the subjects you want a bit more about. It would not replace a book on any specific subject; but it could not itself be

replaced by any publication for convenience, weight, and scope.

Almost every time I see some new plant or tree the trail, I try to look it up in this book. It seems to never have it. It tries to cover all the flora and fauna in a fairly slim volume. Instead of being a useful reference it just covers the very basics and makes itself not too useful by trying to be a "complete guide".

I wanted a field guide that had all the animals and plants in them just for California. I keep this in my car and have found great use of it to identifying different lizards, birds and was so happy I saw a Bobcat. Book was in good condition with an unbroken spine.

Good book. Some very minor details are a bit off, but it's not enough to devalue it.

Fascinating (inexpensive) book about California natural history!! like it because I can pick it up for a few minutes and read about something specific or just choose a section at random. It has the highlights and then more detail, so it's easy to browse at random or really dig into something of interest. It's compact, so it's easy to carry in a jacket pocket or a knapsack, but I just keep it on my end table in my front rooms, so when people plop down on the sofa, it gives them something to look at!

This is a great handbook. I gave to my wife for christmas and she loves it. takes it on walks, takes it to bed and reads for a while

Upon moving to a less developed area of CA, I wanted a quick reference to identify wildlife I was starting to observe. This guide is a great way to get started. It is very well organized into groups (reptiles, birds, trees, etc.) and I am able to find what I am looking for quickly and easily. It has great pictures and descriptions that are detailed enough without going overboard. (It is supposed to be a QUICK reference.) The only negative is that sometimes I see something in the wild that is not in the guide. However, due to the large variety of subject matter that is covered, this is totally understandable. If I want more detail on a specific subject, I will need to purchase a book that concentrates on that subject. Overall a great guide to start enjoying the CA wilderness.

Great all in one source for camping trips with the grandkids. I use to pack several guides when mine

were little. This is a handy small size guide you can easily stick in a back pack.

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