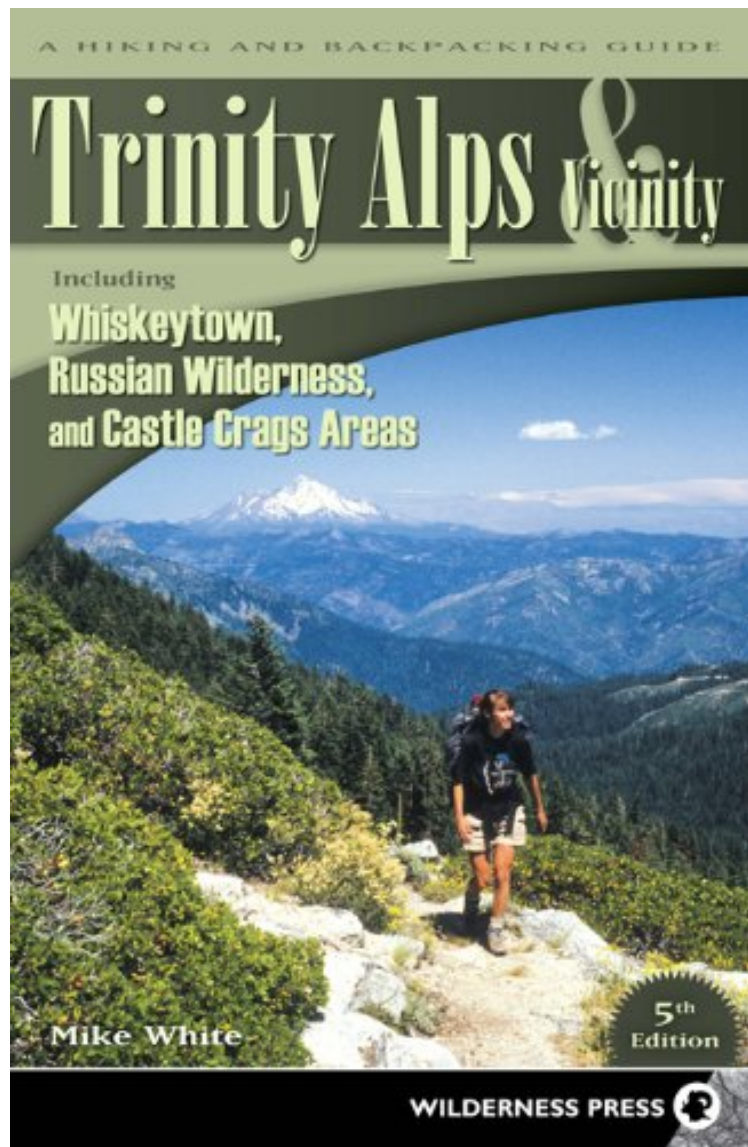


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## Trinity Alps Vicinity: Including Whiskeytown, Russian Wilderness, and Castle Crag Areas: A Hiking and Backpacking Guide

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4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Five Editions Says It All By Fritz R. Ward The Trinity Alps are one of the most rugged, and least visited, mountain ranges in California. Despite their close proximity to the volcanic Cascades, the Alps more closely resemble a lower version of the Sierra, full of granite with some minor glaciation. They also have some geological similarities with the coastal range, and an almost unrivaled biological diversity, even considering their many rivals within the Golden State. But where to go to explore this range? You might consider starting with veteran Wilderness Press author Mike White's guide to the region and surrounding area. It is rare for a hiking guide to make it into multiple editions, but White's book is now in its 5th edition, and for good reason. It is a thoroughly researched and meticulously detailed guide to hiking in California's Northwest corner. Checking in at well over 300 pages, this book not only covers the Trinity Alps Wilderness, but the equally scenic (in my opinion) Russian Wilderness, Whiskeytown Reservoir National Recreation Area, and the lands surrounding Castle Crags State Park. Most of the hikes in this book are extended backpack trips. White not only provides detailed route descriptions, but also the average elevation gained per mile on a hike, a statistic I find particularly useful. He also notes many side trips on each route, some of which involve overland hiking. But day hikers will also find a nice collection of options within the pages of this book. You can explore the many waterfalls around Whiskeytown Reservoir almost any time of year, including the famous lost falls. (A good feature of this book are the excursions into local history, including how a large waterfall came to be lost until 2004!) Finally, each route has a fairly detailed sketch map. That said, I would still use this book in conjunction with the US Forest Service Wilderness Maps just for the added detail a good topographical map includes. On the whole, this is a fun (and educational) book to read, and should be your first resource when exploring the area on foot. It has been a staple of backcountry users for almost 30 years now, and there is a reason for that. It is simply the best guidebook to the region currently available.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. It was a delight to come upon sections of the trail where there ... By Jacob Jefferson Jakes This October (2016) I hiked the western Trinity Alps, roughly following the route described in the book as Virgin Creek, Soldier's Creek, and Devil's Backbone. The author notes as the book was going to print in 2008 that fires in the Trinity Alps would cause problems. I had thought that the fires were further east than the far western section I was visiting, but I was mistaken. Since there has been little trail maintenance since 2005, in concert with fire damage, large parts of the trails were extremely difficult to traverse. Large sections of the trails in several areas were covered with rubble that was not hikeable. Other sections were overgrown with bushes that needed to be fought through. It was a delight to come upon sections of the trail where there were 'just' trees fallen over the trail that needed to be negotiated every 15 or 30 minutes or so. All of which is to say that unfortunately the book is too out of date to be accurate.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Hadn't hiked this region in many years, and really ... By Dave Hadn't hiked this region in many years, and really appreciated the detailed description of the Stuart Canyon, in preparing for, then hiking it on a six-day backpack trip with my son. The descriptions were right on, particularly of the "Cascade Scramble," that got us very well prepared for that hike, right down to the manzanita covering the trail. Looking forward to researching new trails for our next trip!

The Trinity Alps mountain range in the northwest corner of California forms a rugged divide, tucked between the Coast Ranges and the Cascades in a half-million acres of wilderness. Nearby Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, Russian Wilderness, and Castle Crags Wilderness all offer miles of trails and recreation areas to explore. The fifth edition of this classic hiking guide, in print for more than 25 years, has been completely revamped and now covers not only trails and cross-country routes in the Alps but in the nearby recreation lands. It contains descriptions of 48 of the best day hikes and backpack trips, and has all-new maps and elevation profiles for each specially selected hike. Over 600 miles of trail and cross-country routes are covered in this most comprehensive recreation guide to the area.

About the Author Author Mike White has written and contributed to 15 guidebooks for Wilderness Press, including Top Trails Lake Tahoe, Top Trails Sequoia and Kings Canyon, Backpacking California, Sierra South, Sierra North, and Backpacking Nevada.