

[PDF] Explore! Big Sur Country: A Guide To Exploring The Coastline, Byways, Mountains, Trails, And Lore (Exploring Series)

Explore! Big Sur Country: A Guide To Exploring The Coastline, Byways, Mountains, Trails, And Lore (Exploring Series)

Barry Parr

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Barry Parr : Explore! Big Sur Country: A Guide To Exploring The Coastline, Byways, Mountains, Trails, And Lore (Exploring Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Explore! Big Sur Country: A Guide To Exploring The Coastline, Byways, Mountains, Trails, And Lore (Exploring Series):

29 of 29 people found the following review helpful. Auto Tours, Trails and the Lore of Big Sur By Fritz R. Ward By all accounts, California has some stunningly beautiful coastline. Probably the two most spectacular stretches are the Lost Coast, from Humboldt to Mendocino county, and the Big Sur Coastline, stretching south from Carmel to Cambria. The former is accessible only by trail, and one narrow winding road from Humboldt Redwoods to the little community of Shelter Cove. The latter is closely followed by the famous Highway 1, and is the subject of this nice guide by veteran Falcon Guide author Barry Parr. For most people, this is the best place to see California's fine coastline. This guide describes the region well. This book is broadly divided into driving, hiking, and local lore and history sections. All three are entertaining and worth reading. Parr provides an overview of Hwy 1 and the major stops along the way. He also describes many fine backcountry routes into the Santa Lucia range (the northernmost section of the sprawling Los Padres National Forest). For this reviewer, the many fine hiking trails and routes Parr describes are the main attractions. Based on the trails I have hiked, notably those in the state park system (Limekiln, Julia Pfeiffer Burns, Big Sur, and Point Lobos) Parr's descriptions are very accurate. Having read the book, I am now looking forward to exploring the Ventana Wilderness and a few nature trails I had previously missed, most notably at Redwood Gulch, the southern most redwood forest in the state. Parr also shares local lore and legend with readers, including such fanciful new age topics as UFOs, the "Dark Watchers" of the Ventana wilderness, and the lost spirits at Point Lobos. In all, this is an excellent guide. If you just want to enhance your enjoyment of driving the Pacific Coast Highway, this is a great place to start. You will be guided to the Henry Miller museum, Hearst Castle, and many wonderful overlooks. Those with more time can explore some of the many terrific trails in this region, while animal and bird viewers will find ample material on when and where to see some of the area's wildlife. Barry Parr is one of the best writers with Falcon Press and this volume lives up to its predecessors. Get it and enjoy the best of California's coast.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A must read before going to Big Sur By Sarah Young I have been to Big Sur many times since the 70's and after reading this book I discovered there are places I missed in past visits. This is a very good overview of Big Sur and is an interesting read. I would recommend this book to anyone that has not been to Big Sur. You will get many insights into this beautiful and magical coastal area. I am traveling to Big Sur in a few weeks and I am very grateful that I read this book before my trip. Thank you Mr. Parr for leading me to new places to visit.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful book By Joan G. Zakrzewski This book is very informative and interesting. Probably one of the best books on the Big Sur. Loved reading it and so will you.

From the Carmel River to Hearst's Castle, author Barry Parr describes the region along spectacular Highway One--a region well known to motorists, who comprise the majority of the likely readers of this book. Aside from describing the parks, lore, history, and scenic riches, the author gives strong emphasis to the many day-hikes both from the coast and interior roads, and lesser emphasis on selected backpacking routes mainly in the Ventana Wilderness. There are sections on the best beaches, biking routes, equestrian opportunities, wildlife viewing (especially condors and marine mammals), kayaking and scuba, and some four-wheeling on the interior mountain roads.

From the Back Cover From the Carmel River in the north to Hearst Castle in the south and inland through the vast Ventana Wilderness, Big Sur's diverse landscape and breathtaking views offer countless opportunities for fun and adventure. Explore! Big Sur Country is a comprehensive guide for motorists, sightseers, and day hikers alike to scenic Highway 1 and the backcountry byways. Discover picturesque drives through the mountains, hiking trails, places to stay, art galleries to explore, and insider information about the history, nature, and culture of the area. Author Barry Parr guides outdoor travelers to the best destinations throughout the region and shares little-known facts that even locals will love.