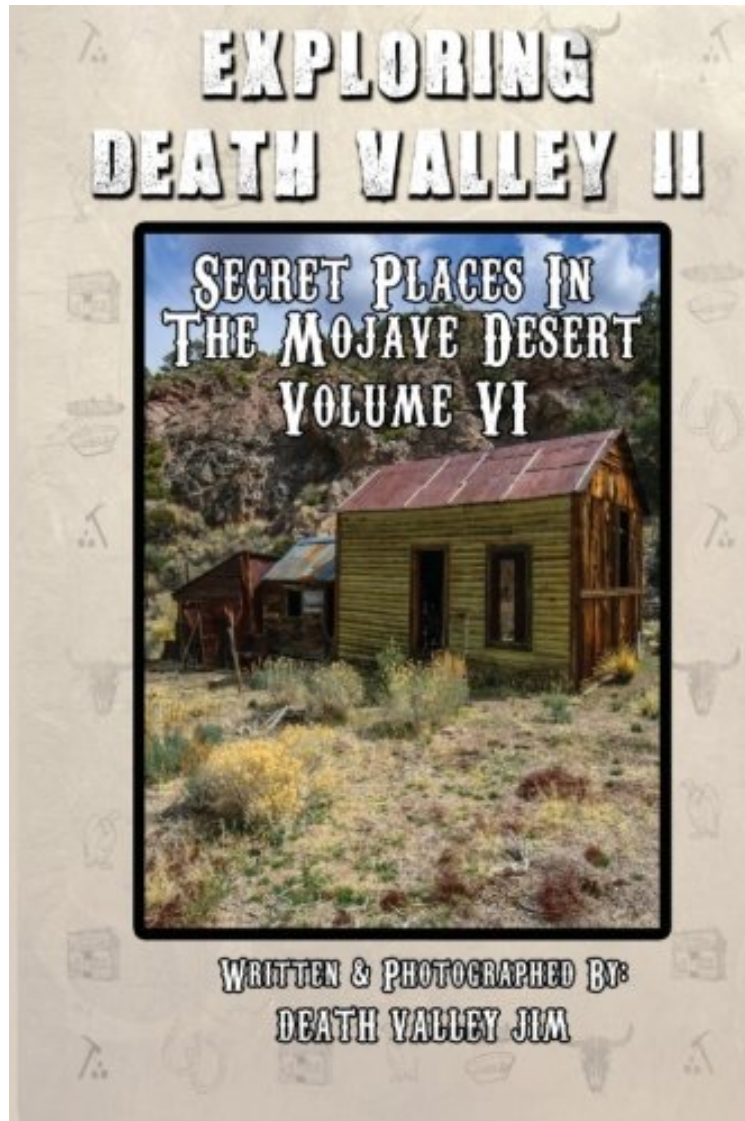


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Exploring Death Valley II: Secret Places in the Mojave Desert Vol. VI (Volume 6)

Death Valley Jim

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Coordinates Helpful but Some Location Details LackingBy William R. DrakeA problem with trying to enter an review for each of the 7 books of the authors is that, at least in some cases,

a review for one book is automatically duplicated for another even though each review is different. Hence, I am doing one review for all of them. I'd rate them 3 stars if possible. For all books: GPS coordinates and a map are given for each site; a brief description of each site often well researched is given along with photos; information related to safety, and etiquette to observe when visiting cultural resources, etc., is offered. Lacking for all his books: More information on locating these places should be given. What USGS map is used and what scale? What is the scale used for his map? Regarding some of the sites: Do you need high-clearance? 4WD? (Could my old Subaru make it?) Specifics re: each book: Vol. I (c2015): For almost all of his sites he gives basic directions for finding them an important improvement over earlier editions of his books. Unlike his maps in some of his other books, none of the maps in this book's edition (maps revised 12/14) show the site location a serious oversight. It also would help readers if he showed the general area of the state that is involved. He divides the book up into geographic sections but not all of his readers will know where all of them are. Vol. II (c2015): For almost all of his sites he gives basic directions for finding them an important improvement over earlier editions of his books. Unlike his maps in some of his other books, none of the maps in this book's edition show the site location a serious oversight. It also would help readers if he showed the general area of the state that is involved. He divides the book up into geographic sections but not all readers will know where all of them are. Vol. III (c2015): Regrettably, he often neglects to give basic directions for finding the sites. Unlike his maps in some of his other books, none of the maps in this book's edition show the site location a serious oversight. It also would help readers if he showed the general area of the state that is involved. He divides the book up into geographic sections but not all readers will know where all of them are. Vol. IV (c2013): Unlike in some of his other books, he marks the site locations on his maps. Unfortunately, he often neglects to give basic directions for finding them. It also would help readers if he showed the general area of the state that is involved. He divides the book up into geographic sections but not all readers will know where all of them are. Vol. V (c2015): Unfortunately, he often neglects to give basic directions for finding the sites. And, unlike with some of his books, he does not mark site locations on his map a serious oversight. It also would help readers if he showed the general area of the state that is involved. He divides the book up into geographic sections but not all readers will know where all of them are. (Each section page has a general map but it is still too localized to know just where it is.) Vol. VI (c2015): Unfortunately, he often neglects to give basic directions for finding the sites. And, unlike with some of his books, he does not mark site locations on his maps a serious oversight. It also would help readers if he showed the general area of the state that is involved. He divides the book up into geographic sections but not all readers will know where all of them are. (Each section page has a general map but it is still too localized to know just where it is.) Vol. VII (c2016): Unlike in some of his other books, he marks the site locations on his maps. Unfortunately, he usually neglects to give basic directions for finding them. It also would help readers if he showed the general area of the state that is involved. He divides the book up into geographic sections but not all readers will know where all of them are. (I ordered the author's Vol. IV on his website a month ago with a credit card, and it showed up on my bill, but the book never arrived. When I try to get back to the website to see if there is a way to contact the author, I am told it is not a secure site, and I am unable to access it. I ended up ordering it and his other books on Amazon, with the website's \$20 purchase being my loss.) Otherwise, for someone willing to do the extra work, the coordinates he provides enable one to work with Google Earth or Garmin's Base Camp to find these interesting places. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Not worth the price. By GL In my opinion these books aren't worth the price. They are just ok. The pictures inside are black and white, not color, and they are too dark to see any detail. The topographic map page included in each topic not only doesn't show a route to the object, as far as I can see it doesn't even show where on it the map the object is. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Overpriced, Undervalued, Cheaply Produced By th87 I have no doubt that the author knows Death Valley intimately but the books are cheaply produced (he apparently self-published, which I did not know in advance) and the information provided is scanty. Paid \$25 each for two books and have paid less than \$10 for equivalent books with far more information and better quality printing. What else? Large topo maps are crammed onto small 5"x7" pages with low resolution printing. If money is no object, then purchase the books, but I have a library of desert books and I am not going to include these in it. I have returned both Volumes V and VI.

Sometimes secret places are in some of the most well-known places in our public lands. These secret places are kept a secret because there are groups or organizations that do not feel you, the reader of this very book, can be trusted with these secrets. In his beginnings, Death Valley Jim was a lot like those who read his books. He combed through piles of research, many of which lead to dead ends and poorly documented sites. He also encountered outright refusal from rangers and other protectors when asked about these secret places. This frustration and secrecy is what has motivated him to continue the Secret Places in the Mojave Desert series to help others like him with a genuine love and interest in the desert and the many treasures that lie within it find them and enjoy them. Our National Parks, Preserves, Monuments, and Forests were created with the intent of preserving the special natural wonders they behold. They were created for all of us to enjoy and explore! But how can these places be truly enjoyed if some of their greatest wonders are being kept a secret from the public? Every American pays taxes and a portion of those taxes is used to preserve our national lands. And every American should be allowed to enjoy every square foot of them. Exploring Death Valley II

picks up where volume I left off, focusing on the secret places in northern and eastern Death Valley National Park, and surrounding areas. You will not be able to find many of these locations in any other publication because they have been so fiercely protected by the powers that be. It is expected this book will be met with much criticism and resistance from many, but it is Jim's hope that just as the lovers of the desert and its history always have, they will continue to respect these natural and anthropological wonders. Take only pictures and memories, leave only footprints.