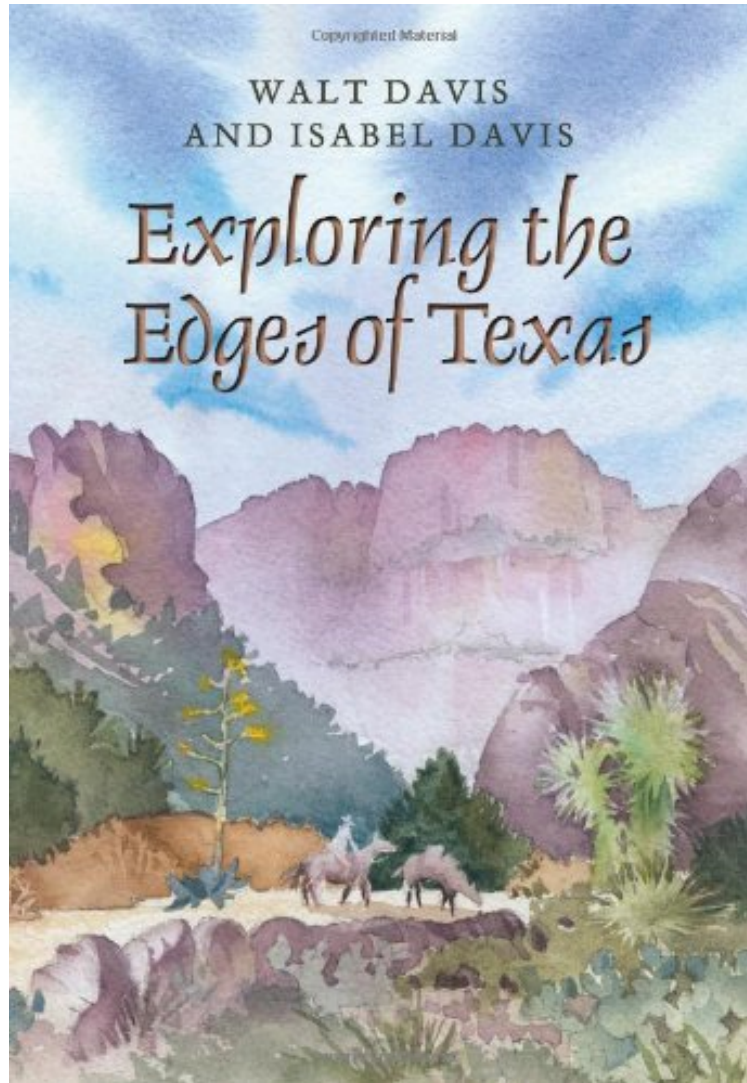


(Download ebook) Exploring the Edges of Texas

Exploring the Edges of Texas

Walt Davis, Isabel Davis

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Walt Davis, Isabel Davis : Exploring the Edges of Texas before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Exploring the Edges of Texas:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Texas Natural History at its Best!By M. LindsayNot since early naturalists navigated Texas' unexplored lands has anyone given us such a descriptive work complete with authentic on-the-ground experiences of Texas natural history and its historians. The authors take the reader on a breath-taking journey across Texas' vast landscapes documenting their unique adventures with places and people as they trace the footsteps of early naturalists such as Charles Wright, Louis Fuertes, Robert Hill, Merriam Bailey and others. The book holds the reader with both early and contemporary documentaries of Texas wild country including historic stories as

told by early adventurers and the tragic losses of great natural treasures. These are skillfully threaded with the difficult yet sometimes amusing stories of the authors journey and way finding. It is truly a "can't put down, page-turning" book. Wonderful, Illustrative drawings by Walt Davis adds much to the book's text, further informing the reader of the first documented glimpses of wild rugged Texas. Walt and Isabelle Davis' work is a "must read" for those who love nature, crave adventure and want to explore Texas' wilderness backcountry, which according to these authors still holds much to be treasured. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great read By R. Cunningham Quite simply, this is a wonderful book! The Library of Congress description on the title page classifies this book as "description and travel", which is a lot like saying that Moby Dick is a book about fishing. This is a book in the best tradition of Bruce Chatwin, John McPhee and Stephen Jay Gould all wrapped in one. Beautifully written (and illustrated), it is an eminently readable book that is satisfying on multiple levels. Travel, adventure, history and natural history; it's all here. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Janet This was a great purchase with great paintings.

In 1955, Frank X. Tolbert, a well-known columnist for the Dallas Morning News, circumnavigated Texas with his nine-year-old-son in a Willis Jeep. The column he phoned in to the newspaper about his adventures, "Tolbert's Texas," was a staple of Walt Davis's childhood. Fifty years later, Walt and his wife, Isabel, have re-explored portions of Tolbert's trek along the boundaries of Texas. The border of Texas is longer than the Amazon River, running through ten distinct ecological zones as it outlines one of the most familiar shapes in geography. According to the Davises, "Driving its every twist and turn would be like driving from Miami to Los Angeles by way of New York." Each of this book's sixteen chapters opens with an original drawing by Walt, representing a segment of the Texas border where the authors selected a special place: a national park, a stretch of river, a mountain range, or an archeological site. Using a firsthand account of that place written by a previous visitor (artist, explorer, naturalist, or archeologist), they then identified a contemporary voice (whether biologist, rancher, river-runner, or paleontologist) to serve as a modern-day guide for their journey of rediscovery. This dual perspective allows the authors to attach personal stories to the places they visited, to connect the past with the present, and to compare Texas then with Texas now. Whether retracing botanist Charles Wright's 600-mile walk to El Paso in 1849 or paddling Houston's Buffalo Bayou, where John James Audubon saw ivory-billed woodpeckers in 1837, the Davises seek to remind readers that passionate and determined people wrote the state's natural history. Anyone interested in Texas or its rich natural heritage will find deep enjoyment in *Exploring the Edges of Texas*.

"Texas has a rich and diverse natural and cultural heritage. Its original explorers, settlers and defenders were brave, resourceful and colorful. As you might expect if you think about it, not all of Texas' rich history happened in the center of the state; some of the best and most interesting took place along its edges. Thus, Walter and Isabel Davis undertook to explore the edges of the state to learn if the sites of certain natural or historical events could still be found, and if so what stories might reveal themselves. They have done a masterful job. *Exploring the Edges of Texas* is most readable and thoroughly enjoyable. Its stories will inspire you to visit the Texas borderlands and search for your own stories; it did me." -Mike Berger, retired Wildlife Division Director, Texas Parks Wildlife Department