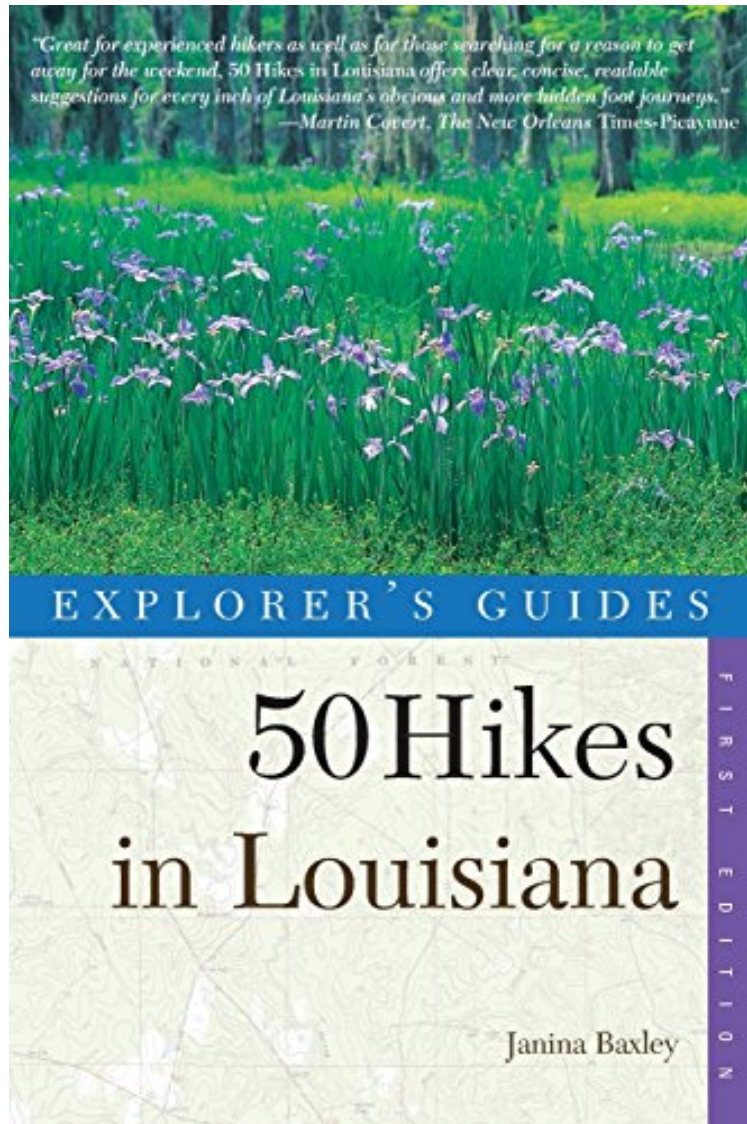


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50 Hikes in Louisiana: Walks, Hikes, and Backpacks in the Bayou State, First Edition

Janina Baxley, Nina Baxley

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#687121 in Books Nina Baxley 2004-01-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .70 x 6.00l, 1.00 #File Name: 0881505986224 pages 50 Hikes in Louisiana Walks Hikes and Backpacks in the Bayou State | File size: 75.Mb

Janina Baxley, Nina Baxley : 50 Hikes in Louisiana: Walks, Hikes, and Backpacks in the Bayou State, First Edition before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 50 Hikes in Louisiana: Walks, Hikes, and Backpacks in the Bayou State, First Edition:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Desperately Needs an Update By David Prager Because the market

for Louisiana hiking guides is so thin, I decided to purchase this one in preparation for my recent hiking trip to the Pelican State. While this guide was excellent 14 years ago, I ran into some problems with it today. As the title suggests, this guide describes 50 hikes in Louisiana. The hikes are reasonably well-distributed throughout the state, and distances range from short 1 mile strolls to 20+ mile multi-day backpacks at Lake Chicot and on the Wild Azalea Trail. The guide includes 10 hikes in Kisatchie National Forest, 9 state park hikes, several hikes at smaller locally or privately managed parks, and 10 national wildlife refuge hikes. The local parks and national wildlife refuges are often underused by hikers, so featuring them so heavily here is a nice touch. Overall, the hike selection in this guide is excellent. Each hike contains an excellent map usually copied from a USGS topo map and a somewhat lengthy trail description that highlights in exquisite detail the unique natural features likely to be seen on the hike. Everything about this guide is excellent except for two things. First, I have found some of the factual information in this guide to be inaccurate. For example, Baxley lists the hike at Fountainbleau State Park as 6.7 miles in length, but when I hiked the same route I measured a distance (via GPS) of only 5.1 miles. I really expect better accuracy from a published trail guide. Also, this guide is really showing its age. There is no GPS information, few pictures, and probably some outdated trail information: in southern Louisiana trails have to be rebuilt after every major hurricane. I docked this guide 1 star for each of these issues. In summary, this is a once-great hiking guide that desperately needs an update. Given the paucity of Louisiana hiking guides on the market, I can see why you would buy this guide, but make sure to check park and national forest websites for updates before you head for the trailhead.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This book was written in 2003, so it can't ...By From DC This book was written in 2003, so it can't reflect post-Katrina changes. Descriptions are wordy and it doesn't include maps. I preferred "Hiking the Gulf Coast." 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A decent list of places, but it didn't exactly get me excited...By B. Jordan I'm not sure if it was the lack of creative color photos or fascinating descriptions, but this book really did nothing to get me interested in hiking in Louisiana. It is informative at times, but only if you seem to already know where you want to go. I can't complain too much because it does what it promises: tells you about some trails in Louisiana.

The surprisingly diverse hiking opportunities in Louisiana. Hikers can experience a surprising variety of habitats and terrains in Louisiana, ranging from piney woods in the west to bottomland hardwood along the Mississippi floodplain, to the picturesque swamps and marshes in the south. The state's varied habitats provide an ideal home for a wide array of flora and fauna, and its mild climate makes fall, winter, and spring excellent seasons for hiking. Louisiana is located along a prime corridor for migrating birds; as a result, many of the state's trails offer bird-watching opportunities for hikers. The hikes in this guide range in length from 1/2 to 31 miles, from a casual stroll to a 3-4-day backpack. An overview chart makes it easy to choose a hike for every ability. Each hike description includes mile-by-mile directions, a topographic map, information on hiking time, mileage, and trail conditions, and knowledgeable commentary on the human and natural history you'll encounter along the way. 50 black-and-white photographs, 51 maps

About the Author Nina Baxley is a lifelong Louisianan who has hiked extensively throughout the state, as well as in Virginia, Mississippi, Alabama, and the length of the Appalachian Trail and Vermont's Long Trail. A technical writer and editor, she has also contributed to GORP.com. She lives in Plaquemine, Louisiana.