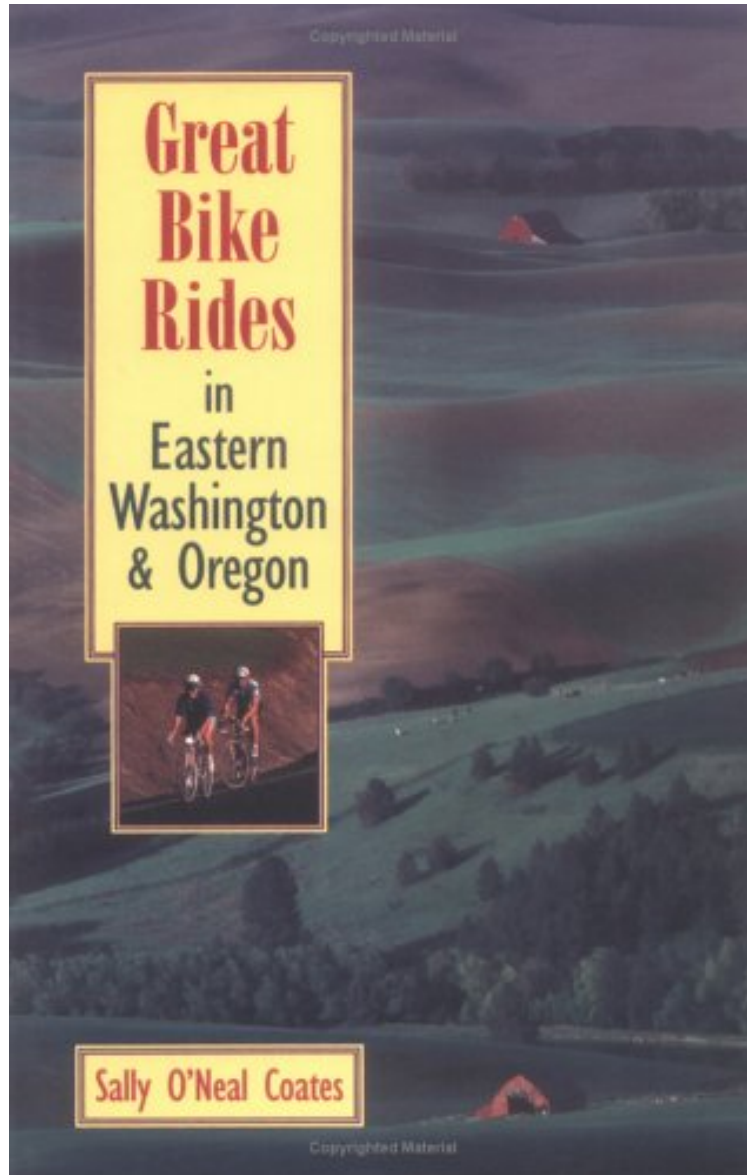


Great Bike Rides in Eastern Washington Oregon

Sally O'Neal Coates

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#3324623 in Books Wilderness Press 2003-06Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 .43 x 5.50 x 8.541, #File Name: 0899972004160 pages | File size: 54.Mb

Sally O'Neal Coates : Great Bike Rides in Eastern Washington Oregon before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Great Bike Rides in Eastern Washington Oregon:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Most of these seem to be in cities?By Lincoln County MTWas expecting more routes outside of towns but oh well. We live in Northern MT and was looking to share some routes with friends in ID to meet up with once a year and ride. But most are connected with the town paths. I'd recommend

the Railroad conversion book to this one which we also have. Also this one is a bit out of date too. Better than nothing though and maybe more helpful to those who live in the areas of the trails. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Sort of "enh." By abwx In one route introduction, the author says: "After exploring no fewer than a dozen routes in Ritzville, all of which ended up turning to dirt or gravel a few miles from town, I fell back on a modified version of the established biathlon route." A think that gives some pretty good clues whether this is the kind of book you might be looking for. The route instructions are pretty much the kind of thing you get from routing software: which way to turn at stop signs, how far to ride this road or that road, alerts that the road you are riding changes names: "Sage Rd. intersects on the left. Continue on Danekas Rd. Your route parallels the railroad tracks on your left." I did like that reference to railroad tracks. There tend not to be references to things worth looking at in the route instruction. There are some in the route introductions, and after the route instructions, each route has a section called "Other Activities In and Around the Route Area." I tend to like old hiking and biking guidebooks. There may be a lot of out-of-date material in them, but that is easily enough checked online. They make up for that by typically being more interesting reading and browsing, than most online sources. I use them to create a shortlist, which I then winnow down online. So if this particular book isn't really my thing, what is? What I'd really like is a biking guide that keeps going from the end of the pavement. Not in search of mountain bike thrills, but to take one a bit further afield than you can typically get by car, or where if you go downwind by car, or stop the car too quickly, you are in a constant dust cloud. The Rail-Trail guides are great, but there are areas without rail-trails where I see dirt tracks going off out of sight, but don't know if there are land ownership restrictions, good loops, happy destinations. The wonderful Washington's Channeled Scablands Guide: Explore and Recreate Along the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail references biking opportunities (along with hiking and kayaking/canoeing), but the tours are mostly car tours. You can do a lot worse than throw your bikes on the car and head out with a few destinations in this book marked, but for all the satisfaction of the day, you might feel like the bike opportunities could have been better. A companion "Biking the Channeled Scablands - off the beaten track" could be real treat. And if that last paragraph intrigues you at all, get On the Trail of the Ice Age Floods: A Geological Field Guide to the Mid-Columbia Basin and On the Trail of the Ice Age Floods - Northern Reaches. The second halves of these (thick and thicker) books are large numbers of trails, many of which are mountain bikeable, a handful of road tours, and a couple of aerial tours each, if you fly or have a small-plane-pilot friend. I'm not going to throw the book at hand away. I'll let it hang around and see if my initial opinions softens. But I expect it will be a Goodwill donation soon. I do know that I will keep going to back to the rail-trail and flood books for outing plans.

Here are 25 road tours that range from two-hour easy jaunts to challenging all-day rides, through ghost towns, shimmering wheat fields, and soft rolling hills.