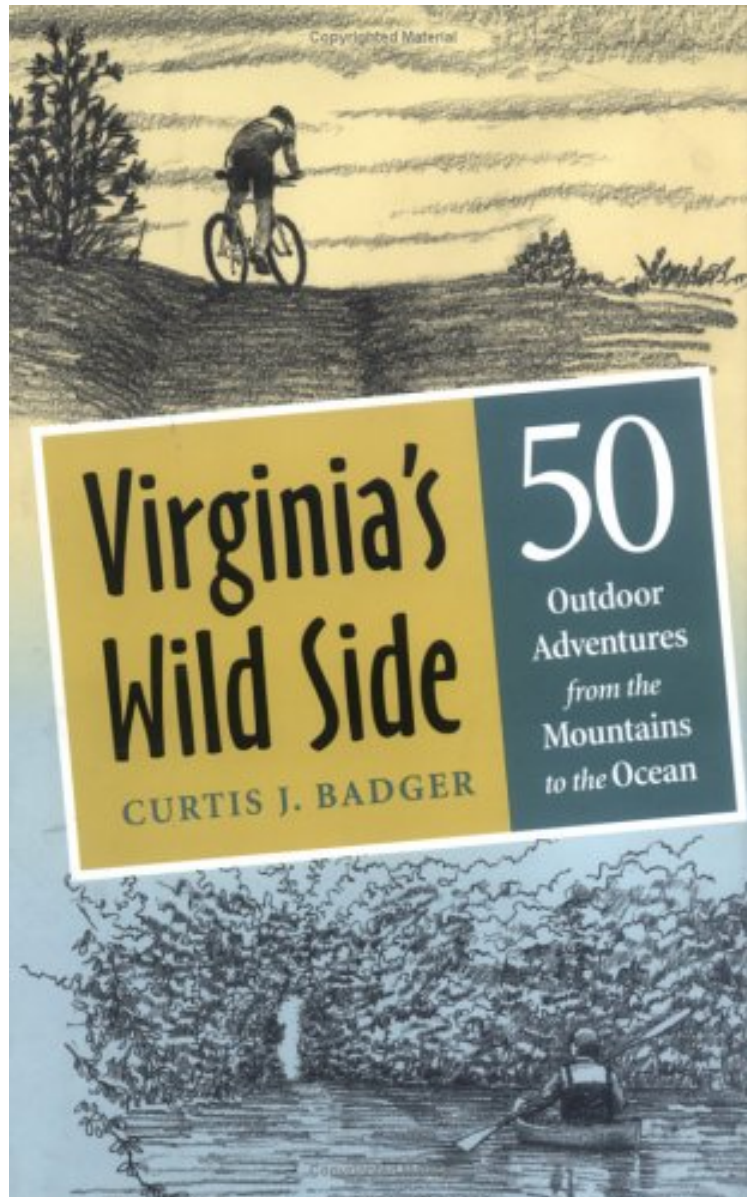


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Virginia's Wild Side: 50 Outdoor Adventures from the Mountains to the Ocean

Curtis J. Badger

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Curtis J. Badger : Virginia's Wild Side: 50 Outdoor Adventures from the Mountains to the Ocean before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Virginia's Wild Side: 50 Outdoor Adventures from the Mountains to the Ocean:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Disappointed AdventurerBy DissapointedI consider both the title and the editorial review of this book incredibly misleading. This is neither a collection of 50 adventures, nor a guide to 50 places around Virginia. A more accurate description would be a compilation of loving memories about four very tame outdoor pastimes (fishing, walking/hiking short easy trails, flat-water kayaking, and biking) repeated over half a dozen Virginia locations. The book will likely only appeal to those who never spend any time outdoors, or who are satisfied by lengthy anecdotes of quiet afternoons spent sojourning with nature, in place of useful information on exciting and unique experiences that are more deserving of the title 'adventure'. I found this collection of short stories, lists of birds, and even recipes, dissappointing and useless.

Fair warning to all of Virginias couch potatoes: Curtis Badger has compiled such an engaging and refreshingly unconventional treasury of outdoor adventures that you may be compelled to give up your seat. He will send you in pursuit of rare salamanders on the slopes of Mount Rogers, to dig clams on tidal flats along the coast, and to spot eagles along the bluffs of the Potomac River.Dividing Virginia into four regionsthe Eastern Shore; the Tidewater, Middle Peninsula, and Northern Neck; Central Virginia and the Highlands; and Southwest VirginiaBadger hikes, bikes, canoes, and kayaks his way through some of the Commonwealths best-known, and least-known, natural areas. He fishes for trout in the James River, confronts bears on Stony Man Mountain, and looks for migrating birds in the Blue Ridge. He kayaks on the Pamunkey, bikes on former railroad beds, and searches for gold at Lake Anna. Yet as much as Badger provides an invaluable guidebook for the active outdoor explorer, his is also a writers journal of entertaining essays sure to please the most adventurous reader. Whether used as a family guidebook for easy weekend jaunts or a natural history resource for students of the Old Dominion, Virginias Wild Side will motivate even the armchair traveler to experience fifty very special Virginia places.

Keen observation and clear, evocative writing are some of those standards for which Badger is known in the business. He has a gift for taking the reader along on a vicarious trip. Hes accurate and wonderfully descriptive. (Garvey Winegar Richmond Times-Dispatch)About the AuthorCurtis J. Badger, a freelance writer and photographer in Onancock, Virginia, is the award-winning author of thirty-three books, including Salt Tide: Cycles and Currents of Life along the Coast, Bellevue Farm: Exploring Virginias Coastal Countryside, and A Naturalists Guide to the Virginia Coast.