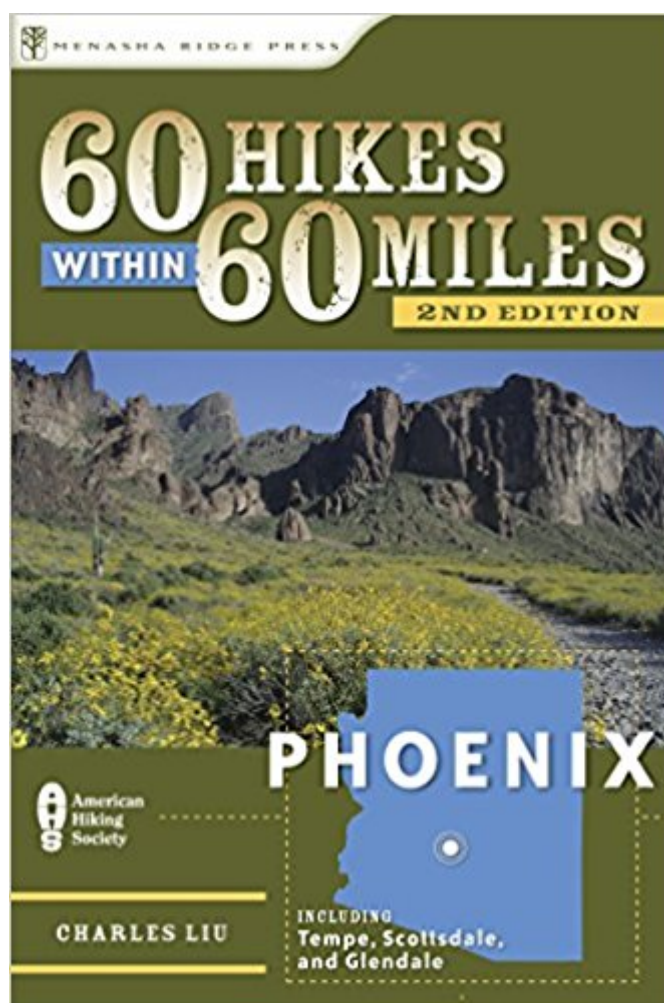


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# 60 Hikes Within 60 Miles: Phoenix: Including Tempe, Scottsdale, And Glendale



## Synopsis

With more than 4 million people, the Phoenix metropolitan area is one of the country's largest. Surprisingly, it's also one of the most diverse and dramatic for hikers, with scenic destinations ranging from area parks, greenbelts, and preserves to high and low deserts and breathtaking mountains. This easy-to-use guide features the best scenic day hikes, determined by author Charles Liu using state-of-the-art GPS technology. These hikes are geared to every skill level, whether it's a comfortable stroll for the family or a tricky trek for the more fearless hiker. Stretching from Hidden Valley to the south to the Superstition Wilderness to the north, the book contains clear trail maps and profiles complemented by detailed descriptions and useful at-a-glance information. All roughly within an hour's drive of the Valley of the Sun, the trails highlighted in this updated edition begin right inside the city limits with popular Camelback Mountain.

## Book Information

Series: 60 Hikes within 60 Miles

Paperback: 262 pages

Publisher: Menasha Ridge Press; 2 edition (January 13, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0897326881

ISBN-13: 978-0897326889

Product Dimensions: 1 x 6 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 64 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #116,245 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in [Books > Travel > United States > Arizona > Phoenix](#) #28 in [Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Exercise & Fitness > Walking](#) #95 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Hunting & Fishing > Fishing](#)

## Customer Reviews

"Liu leads hikers and walkers through a diverse collection of superb trails perfect for hikers of all experience levels." - NorthCentralNews.net

Charles Liu immigrated to the United States from China in 1980. Spending his formative years attending Arizona State University, he grew increasingly fond of the Grand Canyon State's diverse outdoor offerings. Hiking quickly became his passion. Now a software engineer by trade, Charles spends much of his spare time exploring mountains, leading hiking trips, photographing and writing

about trails around Arizona and throughout the Southwest. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Very pleased with this book. It's more recent than most other options, of which I studied several for my upcoming days of hiking while visiting Tempe, AZ. Although I do not have the other books for direct comparison, I can attest to the fact that this book is well written, has great descriptions, appears to include all the major and minor places in greater Phoenix that I would wish to hike, and has superb distances, trail info, parking info, etc. The author has researched the book thoroughly. Pleased with this purchase. Supremely helpful book.

Ok, so I'm a native here and just recently started getting into hiking as a family activity. I was amazed with all these other trails that are in this book. It's got some great information about each trail. Like, type of trail, duration, directions of how to get there. Description of the trails and what to expect which I found to be good. It also tells you if it's in and out the same trail or thru way or loop. It shows the elevation climb and difficulty of the trail. Awesome book

The first time I climbed Camelback Mountain via the Echo Canyon trail I came to a new understanding of the word "steep." The trail rises in excess of 1,000 feet per mile and that includes a relatively level section. But Camelback Peak is hardly alone among the rigorous hikes and climbs in the Phoenix area. Many of the trails in the Phoenix Mountains are incredibly steep with no shade and few convenient rest spots. However, they also offer stellar views of the Valley of the Sun and some of the best off season recreation in the western US. They are also covered in detail in Charles Liu's new addition to the '60 Hikes within 60 miles' series from Menasha Ridge Press. Like other books in the series, this volume has a lot to recommend it. It includes a useful introduction on the basics of hiking and how to use a GPS unit. Hikes are organized by geographical region (within Phoenix, suburbs, and areas to the northeast and northwest, as well as south of the city) and each hike contains key "at-a-glance" information such as distance, elevation, approximate hiking time, and, relatively unique to Phoenix, how many quarts of water you will need if you wish to survive the experience. I might add here that some of the information can be redundant. Under the heading "exposure" virtually every hike lists shade as "none" or "very little." Liu deserves a lot of credit for his careful maps that accompany the trail descriptions. These were recorded by hand-held GPS and plotted onto downloaded topographical maps. Based on the trails I have hiked that are described in this book, these maps are excellent. In all, this is a great book if you are a Phoenix resident or

regular visitor seeking hikes in the off season. (I fall into the latter category.) The author does describe several fairly level paths: the trail in Papago Park and the Bridal Murphy trail, to offset some of the more challenging adventures. For my part, I will use this book to explore the Bradshaw Mountains the next time I visit Phoenix in the warmer months. Liu points out their elevation makes them a nice alternative to the longer drive for Flagstaff if you want to beat the heat. I think it is a safe bet that even seasoned local hikers will find something new in these pages. So get the book and go take a hike (but not during June, July, or August).

Great resource, I have hiked about 25 of the 60 hikes. One of the best features is the GPS coordinates provided for the parking. I put this in Google Maps, and use this to locate the hike for planning the route. One improvement I would like to see is waypoints provided for some of the locations on each of the hikes. Other than that, really like the book. Well worth the investment.

I was taking a trip out to Mesa and needed a good hiking guide. This one is just great. Gives you all the details you would ever need without going overboard. I found several hikes that I thoroughly enjoyed!! Great guide book!!

Must buy for your hiking trip! We use this book for planning, and I even used it while we were hiking. Very accurate, very descriptive!

Gave this to my gal pal in Phoenix, and she loves it. Detailed hike specs, everything you need to plan an outing. Recommended!

This is a very thorough, well-organized book with lots of hiking trails for all skill levels and time allotments. I used this book to help select a few hikes for my wife's and my first trip to Scottsdale this year. Charles Liu's book guided us to the right areas and trails for the types of hiking we wanted. The book includes trails ranging from inside city limits, to just outside the city, to wilderness hikes requiring a little jeeping to access. The descriptions of the trailheads, trails, and points of interest along the way are all excellently written and easily understood. Would definitely recommend this book to someone planning a trip to Phoenix.

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