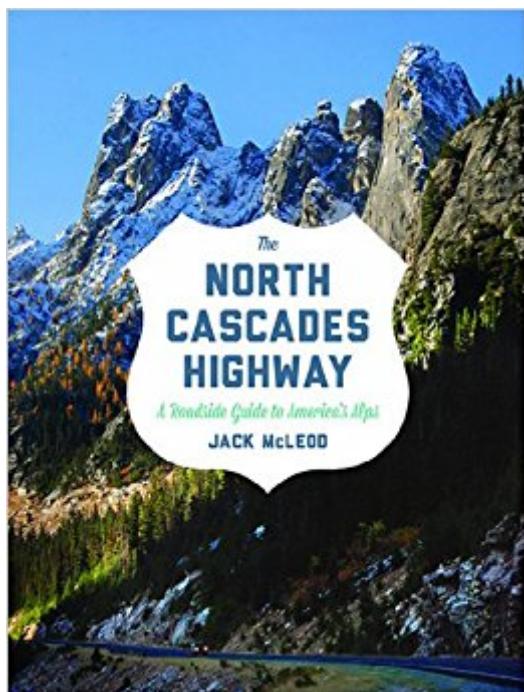


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# The North Cascades Highway: A Roadside Guide



## Synopsis

Each year thousands of drivers travel Washington State's breathtakingly beautiful North Cascades Highway (State Route 20), observing the region's alpine flora and fauna and its dramatic geologic features. The North Cascades Highway, an illustrated natural history guide, helps travelers and readers to appreciate the deeper beauty behind the landscape. Organized as a series of stops at eye-catching sites along eighty miles of the highway, The North Cascades Highway reveals the geological story of each location. Plate tectonics, rock formation, erosion, and glaciation are explored to show how the features of the North Cascades landscape came into being as they exist today. Human history is also included, as the book describes how miners, climbers, and poets have been inspired by the geology and terrain of the North Cascades. For travelers on the road, the easy-to-use guidebook format includes mileage, parking information, and detailed maps. Stunning color photographs allow armchair travelers to enjoy the journey as well. Appendices provide detailed information on geologic time, rock types, glaciers, and the geologists who have decoded stories hidden in rock and ice. The North Cascades Highway provides a unique experience of a striking landscape that is also a rich, interwoven system of living things, climate, and geology.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A book described by the author as 'ideal for someone with ADD,' the North Cascades Highway offers information on a new subject on every page, making it the perfect introduction to the area for amateur geologists, historians, and naturalists." Anna Roth,

Washington Trails Association, December 2013 "His ruminations are brief but wide-ranging enough to spur curiosity and tempt the reader to do more exploration, whether in books or on foot. The North Cascades Highway should awaken a new perspective and remind us what a privilege it is to have such ready access to such rugged mountain."  Marcy Stamper, Methow Valley News, August 29 2013 "A beautifully photographed guide to the history, geology and notable spots along the spectacular highway through the North Cascades."  Seattle Times, September 17, 2013 "There is so much to see and learn along the North Cascades Highway. But as you drive along at 60 mpg, just what do you look for and where do you look for it? Author Jack McLeod can tell you . . . For McLeod, the guidebook is a compilation of his passions. Passions he hopes to stir in others."  Vince Richardson, Skagit Valley Herald "If there's any truth to the idea that ownership in fact derives from knowledge and appreciation of a place then Jack McLeod's eloquent and stunning guide, *The North Cascades Highway* gives him ownership."  Phillip Fenner, *The Wild Cascades*

"The North Cascades Highway has outstanding photos and informative text that effectively deals with technical material in a nontechnical way."  Ruth Kirk, author of *Archaeology in Washington*

This is a very detailed book and I found it to be entertaining and informative, but the title is a bit misleading. A more apt title should be something like "A Roadside Guide to the Geology of America's Alps". I assumed the book would have more information about what there is to do at each stop along the way - hikes, trailheads, photographic opportunities, etc. - but it mostly about the geology of the mountains at each stop. In summary, this book is less of a travel guide and more of a geology lesson.

This book is much more than a coffee table book. It has interesting historical and geological information about the North Cascades Highway and gives mile post references. We plan to take it with us on our next trip on this road. We'll make it a leisurely trip and stop at the various mileposts he mentions. The photography is beautiful, and there are colored photos on nearly every page. I have recommended this book to our friends.

The North Cascades Highway, aka Hwy 20, has been one of my favorite roads for years. The highway changes with the seasons so there is always something new to find. Rockport State Park

with the old growth forest, the eagles that migrate to the Skagit River in January, the seasonal trees that bloom at Newhalem...this Roadside Guide just adds to the experience.

Book is well written and comprehensive. Especially appreciated the geology information. Good companion to other books about North Cascades geology and history.

This is an excellent book about the Washington State alps. I have traveled this highway numerous times and it is always a pleasant adventure. Ordered some for out-of-state relatives. Extremely informative.

A very comprehensive guide that is useable by people of all interests and ability levels in exploring the North Cascades.

Excellent

Have used it for scenic trips to do photography.

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