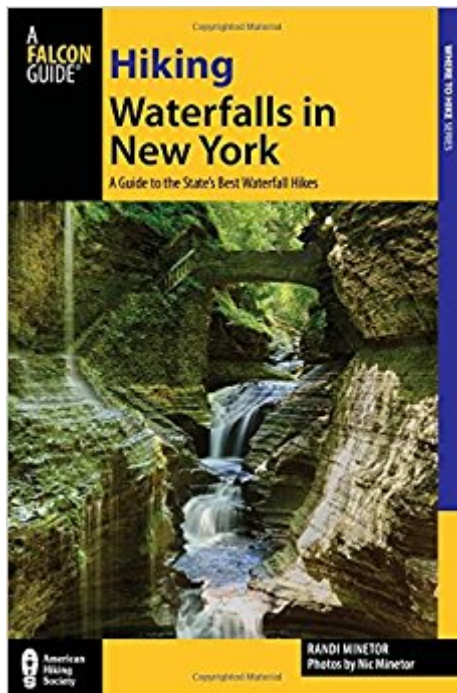




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Hiking Waterfalls In New York: A Guide To The State's Best Waterfall Hikes



Synopsis

From the top of the Adirondack Northway to the precipitous drop that creates Niagara Falls, *Hiking Waterfalls in New York State* provides all of the information readers need to find their way to waterfalls hidden in the crevices of the Catskill Mountains, high on the faces of the High Peaks, flowing through magnificent gorges into the Finger Lakes, or deep in the backcountry of the Southern Tier. Detailed driving and hike descriptions include slices of history and a glimpse of geology. GPS coordinates, maps, and color photos of over 100 of the state's best waterfalls make certain that hikers and sightseers will find their way to these sparking gems, whether they can be seen from the roadside or at the end of a lengthy trail. The book has less than 10 percent overlap with FalconGuides' popular *Hiking New York*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Randi Minetor has traversed the beautiful routes and byways of New York state while writing *Hiking Waterfalls New York*. Her books include *Scenic Routes & Byways New York* for Globe Pequot Press, *Backyard Birding: A Guide to Attracting and Identifying Birds* for Lyons Press, five books on hiking in New York State in the *Best Easy Day Hikes* series, and five books each in the *National Park Pocket Guide* and *Guided Tours Through History* series, also for Globe Pequot Press. She is best known for her *Passport To Your National Parks Companion Guides* series for FalconGuides. Her husband, photographer Nic Minetor, is a professional lighting designer for theater, film, opera, dance, and television, including the popular PBS series "Second Opinion"

and more than 20 seasons of the Eastman School of Music's Opera Theatre, His photos are also featured in the Quick Reference Guides to the Birds, Trees, and Wildflowers of New York.

Visiting and photographing waterfalls has been a long time hobby of mine. There are a huge number of waterfalls in New York State and most are hidden away or only known locally. So books are the best way to find them and plan a waterfall tour. I have quite a few books like this one and this one is quite good. I'm familiar with virtually all the waterfalls in eastern NY, so my comments reflect good local knowledge.

What I like: Almost all the waterfalls listed are worth visiting as a nice set of criteria were established up front: you can actually see them or visit them; not on private land. They flow most of the year. Are reasonably reachable; no long or treacherous hikes. The hike descriptions and directions are reasonably accurate (but see below) and the frontal trail finder lists are unique to this book. The safety material is also accurate and important. The pictures are very good, too!

What I didn't like: There are some wild errors in the location of several waterfalls on the map that begins the book. The numbered locations for Kaaterskill Falls and Tenant Falls are just wrong. Fortunately, the written directions are accurate. Even then, some of the written directions are not really specific enough to get to the waterfall without some risk of error. For example, the directions to Split Rock Falls are from the north, while the road map shows highways from the south. While the book is organized by region, the numbering system is not (and I suspect this is the cause of the several errant numbers). Lastly, one of the criteria is that water flows most of the year. But except for a few big waterfalls (Niagara Falls, Glens Falls and Cohoes Falls ... there are few more), all NY waterfalls are seasonal. One waterfall listed, Christman Sanctuary, is definitely seasonal although described as 'robust' and 'flows with vigor in mid-summer'.

But to add some perspective, all the waterfall books I have read have errors in maps or directions, so this book does not fail on these issues. And in fact generally does as well or better.

And I would add this to one of the waterfalls listed - Platte Kill Falls. The 'summer' directions from West Saugerties takes you up one of the most hazardous roads I have ever driven on. Very steep (a real test of your cooling system) stretch of narrow, poorly maintained roadway with a 600+ foot drop off and no guard rails. Seriously, take the slightly longer winter route.

So in general, use the book to plan your trip, but verify the directions using a good map. (The DeLorme NY Atlas & Gazetteer works well and also has many of the waterfalls.)

I would write the same review as I did for waterfalls in New England. Only this has a little more information. For example they let you know if dogs are welcome and in what way, such as leash or

not and what length of leash. Excellent book.

Extremely useful for ideas/info before a trip. Planned a weekend away with my husband and hit as many waterfalls as we could on the way up to Niagara and this book took us to some beautiful spots. This is not a trail guide and it's not for taking with you on a hike (not travel sized) but the info, photos, maps, etc are extremely useful for planning.

Superb color photos and well done location/trail maps. It has different/not all the waterfalls listed in the 200 Waterfalls of WNY/CNY book. If you like that mentioned book/exploring (roadside to good hike), this one is for you.

great gift!!

I have been to many of the beautiful spots listed in this book and look forward to the spring summer fall to tackle more

Best New York hiking book I've ever purchased. Very user friendly and easy to follow. Clearly lists information like parking, path difficulty, and has beautiful pictures for each waterfall location!

Beautiful pictures, relevant, interesting information, maps

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