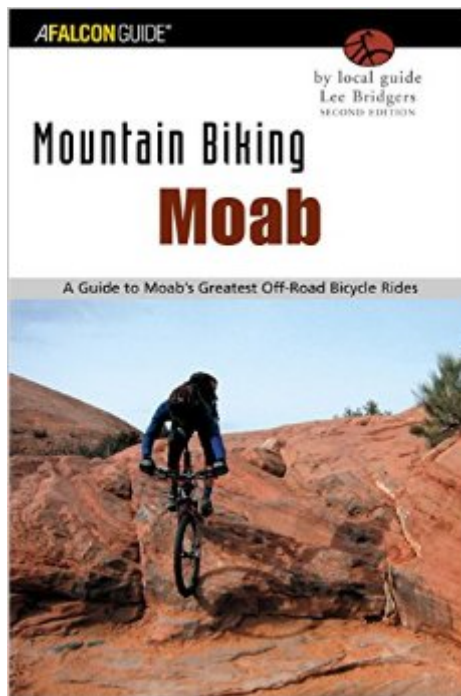


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Mountain Biking Moab: A Guide To Moab's Greatest Off-Road Bicycle Rides (Regional Mountain Biking Series)



Synopsis

We flock to it in droves to pay homage to what many consider the North Shore, the Mount Everest, the Vatican, the Taj Mahal, the Empire State Building, the Marilyn Monroe of mountain biking -- Moab, Utah. But mind you, Moab is not for everyone. Nowhere is the terrain more challenging or more dangerous. Nowhere is the penalty stiffer for screwing up. But if mountain bikers don't ride Moab, they will forever dream of what could have been. Moab is simply the best mountain bike destination on earth. No question. No controversy. No ifs, ands, or buts. It gets under your skin. Come here once, and you will come again and again. From this book mountain bikers can expect exhaustive and comprehensive trail descriptions, from beginner to advanced, GPS-quality, digitally designed relief maps detailing each ride, and accurate profiles maps showing the ups and downs of each route. In addition, detailed directions get cyclists to the ride without getting them lost. Detailed mile-by-mile directional cues are also provided with difficulty ratings, elevation gain, trail contacts, and much more.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

My wife and I have mountain biked in Moab on two separate, week long trips. From this limited experience, I thought I had a pretty good grasp of the best local rides. On our last trip to Moab, we purchased (really on a whim, because we have 5-6 other Moab guide books) the Mountain Bike America "Moab" book by Lee Bridgers. WHAT A GREAT BOOK ! I read it like a novel, from cover to cover. This book has it all. It includes more rides than other guide books, and describes many rides

which are in no other books. The ride descriptions are well done, and very complete. Lee Bridges goes to great lengths to point out interesting history, geology, and excellent "dinosaur details" for each ride. Why does this place (which looks like it could easily be on another planet) look the way it does? What further separates this book from other guide books is the attention to the local color of the area. The author introduces you to the colorful people of the Moab area. Having read this book, I know I must return to Moab. I discovered I had not even scratched the surface of the rides in the Moab area. I discovered 3-4 new rides in the "Gemini Bridges" area alone, where most guide books describe only one option. If you go to Moab, be careful. This area should be treated with utmost respect. I suggest you should consider hiring a guide for this area for part of your trip.

This book is the ultimate guide for anyone headed to the Mountain Bike Capitol of the World...Moab. I have taken several guided rides with Lee during my visit to Moab 2 summers ago, and believe me, this man knows what he is talking about. I found his attention to safety impeccable. He was extremely cautious when necessary, and I appreciated that. There is ALOT more to Moab mountain biking than the Skickrock Bike Trail. As a matter of fact, the Slickrock Trail would have been considered a beginner trail compared to a few of the remote places that Lee had taken me to. The places I am referring to were so obscure, that it would have been easy getting lost just driving to the trail. The trails were extremely exposed and very dangerous. If a serious injury occurred on one of these rides, even a helicopter rescue might not be an option. This is why Lee takes safety VERY seriously. He leaves NOTHING to chance. A person died on Slickrock while I was out there, and that was not the first time. In fact, a 13 year old boy died just this week (Aug, 2000). The group he was with ran out of water and hightailed it off of Porcupine Rim, accidentally leaving him behind. Death happens. Safety is a serious issue, and Lee knows this! As for Lee's navigational skills...they are incredible. He has radar. His rides are not found on any map or in any other guidebook of the Moab area. You would NEVER find these places on your own, and you could die trying. I trusted Lee explicitly and look forward to riding with him again this September, on my return trip to Moab. Please take into consideration when you read the negative comment on this book that your safety is Lee's business. If it appears that he is pushing his guide service, it is for a reason. His rides are worth twice what he charges. Please note that I have no affiliation with Lee, or his company, Dreamride...just a satisfied customer. Buy this book and hopefully you will take from it the respect that the remote Moab territory deserves.

After visiting Moab 11 times in the last decade I became tired of the oft-repeated scene of totally

unprepared people heading out on rides like Slickrock or Porcupine Rim. I came to the conclusion that these people come to Moab because they either read about it as a great family experience in "Sunset" magazine or they read a "Men's Journal" article touting Moab as a cool place to test your manly bike skills. Either way, people like me end up fixing their flats, giving directions, or patching up their wounds. These are the same people who head out at noon in 105 degree weather with a single 16 oz. water bottle.."Dude we're outa water..." Later you hear that someone in that group broke an ankle. That's the reality. Just check out the clinics in Moab in the afternoon..ten broken appendages a day is par. The earlier reviewer who complained that this book "cried wolf" is out of touch. Sure you can take the family on Kane Creek Road and up to Hurrah Pass or Gemini Bridges, etc.(totally safe) but the classic rides are best left to intermediate-advanced riders. Books that have glossed over this in the past are doing the average traveller a disservice. Lee Bridgers' book is the first honest assessment of what it takes to ride in Moab. Being prepared doesn't mean the experience isn't fun, in fact it probably ensures that it WILL be fun. I would also like to compliment the author for the many anecdotes and discussions of the environment. They breathed new life and insight into my last trip. Overall, its a great resource and fun to read!

Naturally, a guide book of mystical Moab needs to offer a little more... And this guide delivers. Lee runs a local touring business, and he writes about the trails from the perspective of a rider, not just a fair weather REI wannabe who sits in his truck ticking off the trail on the odometer. Lee's business doesn't take giant tours down the same trail again and again, instead he sets up individualized packages based upon the rider's skill level, so Lee knows all of these trails intimately. So you'll find info on the trails and the terrain that the typical cattle car tourbooks of Moab won't give you...In addition, this guide offers something else that your normal REI fare doesn't. Namely, it is well written, in an undetatched, thoughtful voice. Lee has lots more to offer than your typical gearhead. Gems of creativity, and especially humor abound. Some of my favorite parts of the book are the downright hilarious tales of the "local color."So if you are scouting Moab, or are simply looking to supplement your library then this is the guide for you.

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