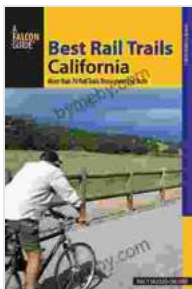


Discover the Best Rail Trails in California: A Comprehensive Guide to Scenic Adventures

California, with its diverse landscapes and stunning scenery, offers a plethora of opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts. Among the most popular and accessible recreational activities are rail trails—former railroad lines that have been converted into multi-use trails. These paved or gravel paths provide a safe and scenic way to explore the state's natural beauty, whether on foot, by bike, or on horseback.

This comprehensive guide will introduce you to the best rail trails in California, providing detailed information on their location, length, difficulty, and highlights. From coastal trails with breathtaking ocean views to mountain trails that traverse towering peaks, there's a rail trail for every taste and fitness level. So, grab your gear and get ready to embark on an unforgettable adventure along California's historic rail lines.



Best Rail Trails California: More Than 70 Rail Trails Throughout the State (Best Rail Trails Series)

by Tracy Salcedo

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
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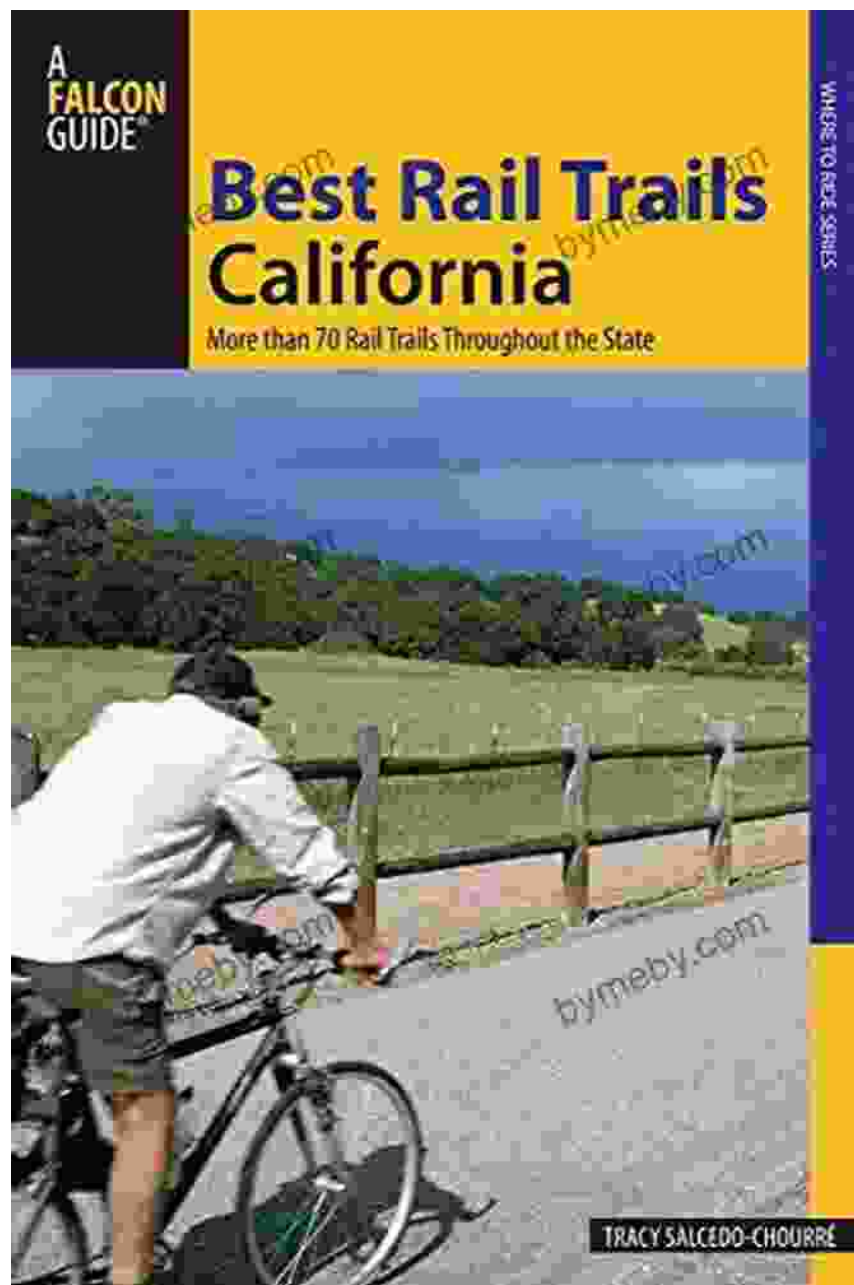


1. American River Bike Trail



The American River Bike Trail is a paved trail that follows the scenic American River for 32 miles from Discovery Park in Sacramento to Beal's Point in Folsom. The trail offers a variety of terrain, including flat sections along the riverbanks and rolling hills through oak woodlands. Along the way, you'll pass by historic sites, picnic areas, and fishing spots. The trail is popular with cyclists, joggers, and walkers.

2. Bay Trail

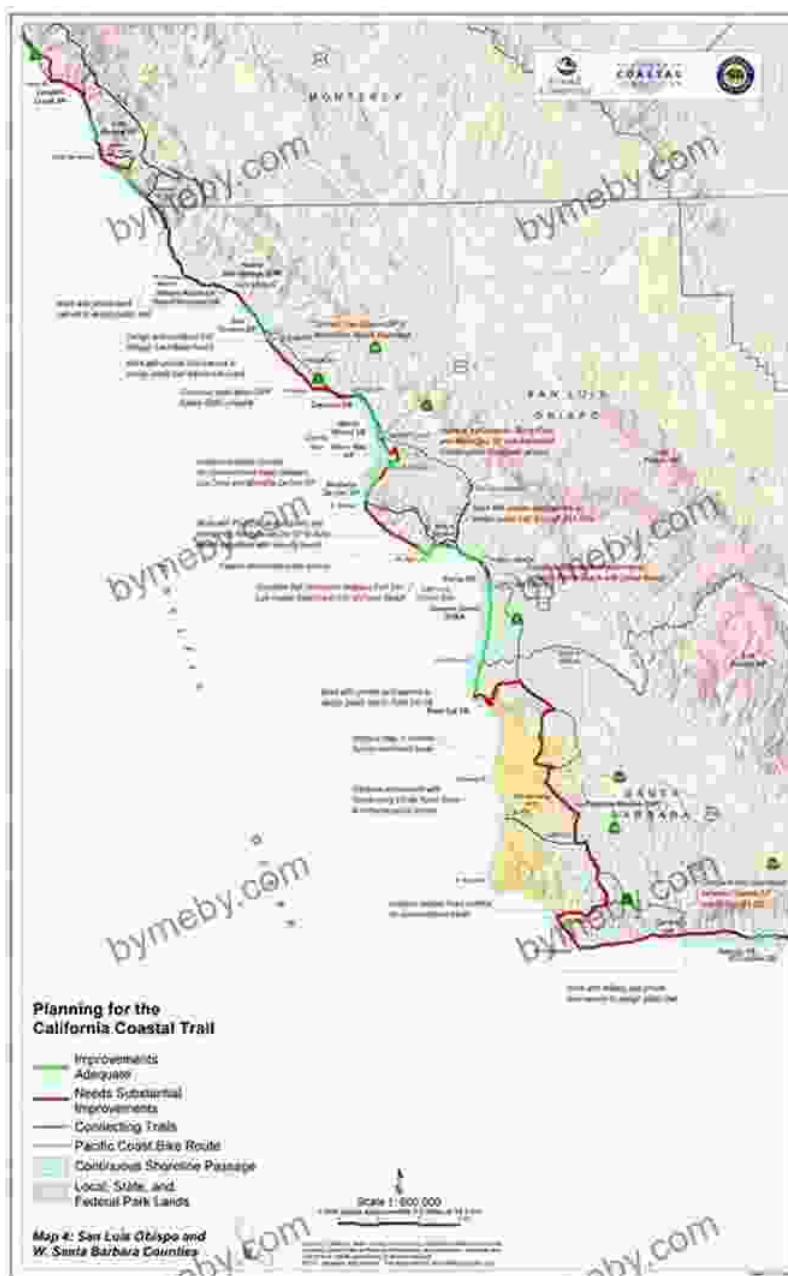


Bay Trail

The Bay Trail is a 500-mile network of trails that encircles the San Francisco Bay. The trail follows the shoreline, providing stunning views of the bay, bridges, and surrounding hills. The trail is divided into nine segments, each with its own unique character. Some segments are paved

and suitable for all ages and abilities, while others are more rugged and require some hiking experience.

3. California Coastal Trail



The California Coastal Trail is a 1,200-mile trail that follows the California coastline from Mexico to Oregon. The trail is a combination of paved paths, dirt roads, and hiking trails. It offers a variety of terrain, including beaches,

cliffs, forests, and mountains. The trail is popular with hikers, bikers, and equestrians.

4. Los Angeles River Bike Trail



Los Angeles River Bike Trail

The Los Angeles River Bike Trail is a 51-mile paved trail that follows the Los Angeles River from Canoga Park to Long Beach. The trail offers a variety of terrain, including flat sections along the riverbanks and rolling hills through parks and neighborhoods. Along the way, you'll pass by historic sites, art installations, and wildlife viewing areas. The trail is popular with cyclists, joggers, and walkers.

5. Napa Valley Vine Trail



The Napa Valley Vine Trail is a 47-mile paved trail that follows the Napa River through the heart of Napa Valley. The trail offers a variety of terrain, including flat sections along the riverbanks and rolling hills through vineyards. Along the way, you'll pass by historic wineries, charming towns, and scenic overlooks. The trail is popular with cyclists, joggers, and walkers.

6. Pacific Surfliner Trail



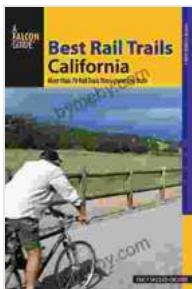
Pacific Surfliner Trail

The Pacific Surfliner Trail is a 351-mile trail that follows the Amtrak Pacific Surfliner train route from San Diego to San Luis Obispo. The trail is a combination of paved paths, dirt roads, and hiking trails. It offers a variety of terrain, including beaches, cliffs, forests, and mountains. The trail is popular with hikers, bikers, and equestrians.

7. Sacramento River Trail



The Sacramento River Trail is a 123-mile paved trail that follows the Sacramento River from Sacramento



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