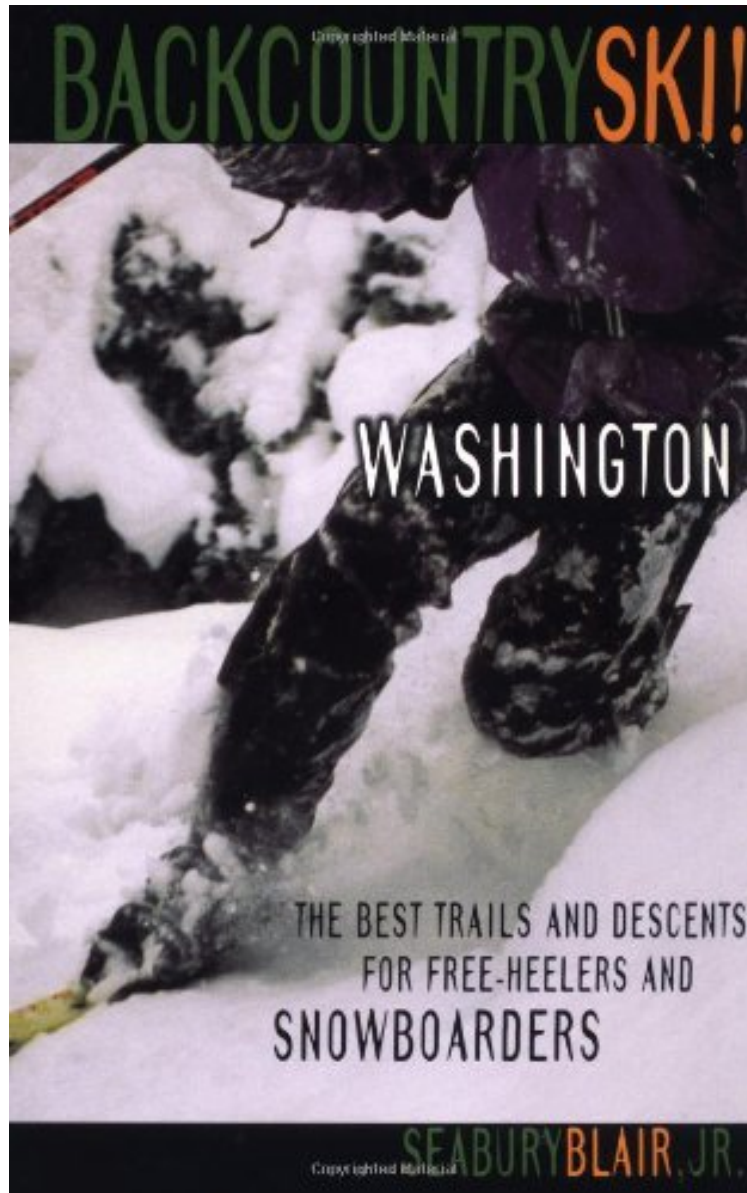


(Download) Backcountry Ski! Washington: The Best Trails and Descents for Free-Heelers and Snowboarders

Backcountry Ski! Washington: The Best Trails and Descents for Free-Heelers and Snowboarders

Seabury Blair Jr.

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Seabury Blair Jr. : Backcountry Ski! Washington: The Best Trails and Descents for Free-Heelers and Snowboarders before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Backcountry Ski! Washington: The Best Trails and Descents for Free-Heelers and Snowboarders:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars
By Tim
This book is nice for tamer adventures.
19 of 23 people found the following review helpful. A disservice to skiers and snowboarders
By Philip Fortier
This has got to be one of the worst guidebooks I have ever read. I bought it only because it was, at the time of its release, the only backcountry skiing guidebook for Washington. Now that the 2nd ed. of Rainier Burgdorfer's book has come out, there is no reason to buy this one. There are several things wrong with this book:
1) The tours are mainly beginner and intermediate tours. (It's true that these types of skiers will get some use from this book, but there are other problems). For example, the Muir snowfield tour is portrayed as the be-all-end-all tour, when really it is a mundane overcrowded route. Furthermore, he squeezes several tours out of one, especially in the Paradise and Hurricane Ridge sections...
tour #20: go 1/2 a mile, and swoop down this bowl. Tour #21: go a mile further, swoop down this bowl. Tour #22: go 1/2 a mile further, there is a nice viewpoint.
2) For each of these tours, driving and trailhead directions are repeated in full. For cases like Paradise and Hurricane ridge, which, as noted above, probably have 10 "tours" from the same spots, this is such a waste of space!
3) He talks way too much about his dog "wunderhund", and silly anecdotes, instead of giving useful advice. He states the obvious a lot.
4) Snowboarders? That word is in bold font on the cover, in an attempt to appeal to a new market. The reality is, not many of these routes are suitable for snowboarders.
In conclusion, flipping through this book is depressing. You feel like there really isn't any good backcountry ski terrain in Washington. And the silly writing gets old really quickly.
5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Buy Rainier Burgdorfer's guidebook....
By avid skier
Rainier Burgdorfer's Backcountry Skiing in the Washington's Cascades is MUCH MORE useful. I've got both this book and Burgdorfer's guide and this guidebook covers the same tours as Burgdorfer's book and doesn't provide enough new or different information about these backcountry ski tours to make it useful. As Mr. Blair mentions, Burgdorfer's book does cover some tours that are only accessible after roads have melted out or that require some mountaineering equipment, but that just makes it more interesting. The majority of Burgdorfer's tours are suitable for skiers of intermediate or better ability and do not require any non-skiing gear (i.e., mountaineering equipment).
Martin Volken's guide to Backcountry Skiing Snoqualmie Pass (Backcountry Skiing) is also worth checking out as it does provide new and different options from Burgdorfer's guide in my opinion.

Discover the best places to go in the Cascades and Olympics for backcountry skiing -- telemarking, cross-country, and snowboarding. In his new guide, Seabury Blair explores ungroomed powdery slopes and pristine wilderness trails, with more than half the routes described for intermediate-level backcountry skiers. The 70 routes described here feature mileage and elevation gains, trail logs, estimated skiing times, topographical maps with GPS, photos, skill levels and traction required, map references, directions, and avalanche potentials. Blair also includes information on safety, gear, and resources as well as tips on backcountry areas in eastern Washington.