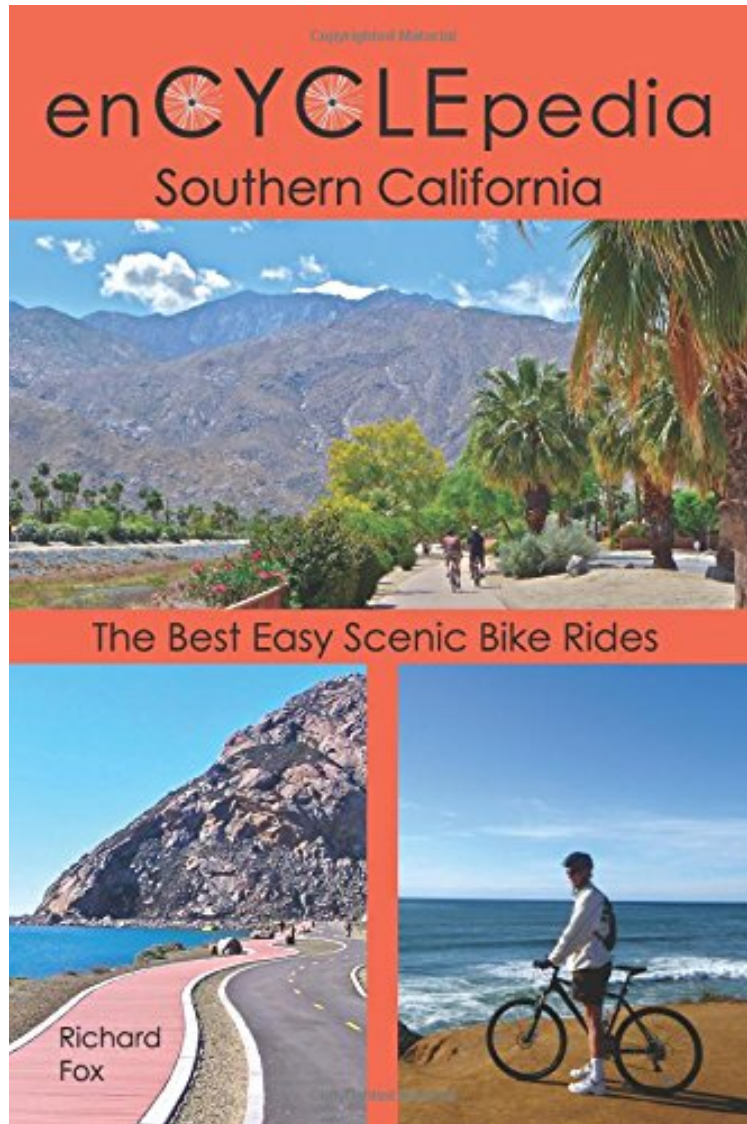


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# enCYCLEpedia Southern California: The Best Easy Scenic Bike Rides

*Richard Fox*

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**Richard Fox : enCYCLEpedia Southern California: The Best Easy Scenic Bike Rides** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised enCYCLEpedia Southern California: The Best Easy Scenic Bike Rides:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Good references for finding trailsBy CGood references for finding trails. Planned vacation around guide. Trails were easy to find. Lived up to expectations. Maps were helpful.2 of 3

people found the following review helpful. Great read...Great ride...Great resource for SoCal cyclists!By Arch Angelus SturaitisAnd, in the "One can only just wonder" department: What if the famous Hollywood movie/TV star/actor Alec Baldwin spent more of his time reading and following the wonderfully illustrated and lovingly mapped cycling adventures and advice in the beautiful new book "enENCYCLEpedia Southern California, The Best Easy Scenic Bike Rides" by Richard Fox, (Westcliffe Publishers, Boulder CO 2014) maybe his troubles with cycling in NYC may well never have happened.Who knows if Alec Baldwin's bad bicycle karma could have ever been entirely avoided, but In this new book, (and note the title's clever spelling---"enENCYCLEpedia") there are so many choices and places described, with an invitation to pedal in some of the most charming, breathtaking relaxing and scenic locales in Southern California, that it would, by any comparison, represent nothing less than a true escape of pure joy. It certainly would be just that kind of change of place and pace---latitude and attitude, where even just reading the wonderful writing in this book, could alone bring if not karmic bliss, at least an instant good mood to anyone. Yes, it's tempting to send him a copy of the book.Of course, Alec can afford to buy a copy of the book himself, (and maybe a few copies for a couple for his friends and possible fellow riders)...and if he does, he will quickly find himself enjoying a pleasant ride while marveling at the absolute thoroughness and lively detail that author Richard Fox has pored into this amusing and informative book.Not only are there great photos and maps detailing recommendations for various comfortable rides in the iconic So Cal area, but ever the renaissance man, author Fox annotates these amazing rides not only with important highlights to let riders/readers appreciate the wider view from the road sort of speak, he even adds a recommended music playlist ('safe listening style' (one ear-bud free)), list of songs to enhance and accompany the journey inspired by associations of the particular place. Note that the maps and descriptions will never get out of date as the author plans to constantly update all of the information in downloadable format on a website available to owners of the book.But needless to say: Better not pedal and read at the same time (so my advice: decide to read and be inspired first; then pedal to your heart's content checking out and planning your travels both as you go, or as you reminisce at home afterwards). Return to the book and you'll want to get back on the bike, on the road again, eager to see, learn and experience more. Also in this book, you'll see plenty of places to pause on your bike trip, to refresh, take a break, ponder, reflect and take it all in.For the best places accessible by an easy bike ride to see elephant seals, whales, wildlife, wildflowers, lots of nature, amazing architecture, local points of interest, (even with suggestions for local eats), amazing facts and history abound, this book packs it all in with full color custom and artistically-rendered maps suggestive of the various highlighted places, and great photos covering the area in Southern California from San Luis Obispo County and south, across to Bakersfield and the desert region of the state. This is the definitive compendium of the most enjoyable easy-going and scenic bike rides, mostly away from vehicle traffic, encompassing most of this region's stunning ecosystems, parks and varied points of interest you'll ever find presented in one convenient place right at your fingertips.But, because this is definitely not a typical cycling guidebook, or a skills and competition bike manual, and unlike a dry list of must-do-must see tour place pamphlets, this book reads more like a novel or a journal of discovery of sorts, and strangely, the information, and the tips are more of a subtle and welcome perk. The exercise and the stress-removal riding that comes with all of this is also pretty much a pleasant afterthought. Nobody with a bicycle in Southern California, or anyone who ever has had an interest in the area, the lifestyle, or has plans to visit someday, should miss the opportunity to check out this absolutely entertaining and very essential book. At 373-packed illustrated pages, it's the real deal and best deal on two wheels.I personally highly recommend this book.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I read all the great reviews, and decided to buy thisBy Ivana BabkovaI read all the great reviews, and decided to buy this. I was, however, unable to read it. The author is concerned with making people understand how his book is structured - I had no problem with that. But now I am completely sure that there is such a thing as men's and women's writing style - I simply could not read this. I decided to give it to my boyfriend (luckily we bike together, so I will still benefit from the author's knowledge), and he is completely comfortable with this writing style, and loves the book :-)

This recent bicycling book is the guide you've been waiting for. It presents over 200 scenic ride options that take you to Southern California's storied beaches, starkly beautiful deserts, pine-covered mountains, bucolic wine country, fabulous cityscapes and bustling harbors, historic city centers and to everywhere in between, from San Diego to Cambria to Palm Springs. Anyone comfortable riding a bike can handle these easy rides that keep you entertained, exhilarated, and mostly on both paved and dirt trails away from vehicle traffic. The bike rides are perfect for the casual cyclist, social groups, most families, and more serious cyclists for a change of pace. Options tailor the length of the rides to the cyclist's ability, from beginner to the more seasoned. Most base rides are between 5 and 20 miles long plus options to combine or extend rides, and about 75 percent are on pavement. Mountain bike trails are for novices, with options for more advanced riders. If you want to just enjoy yourself on a beautiful ride with few if any hills, away from busy roadways, in a relatively safe area, and perhaps stop for brunch along the way, then these bike rides are for you. The comprehensive volume mentions restaurants, bike rentals and recommended RV and tent campgrounds along the routes as well as the best bird and whale watching spots, beaches, historic sites and popular attractions. The book showcases the region's extensive rail system that enables many of the rides to be accessed and combined without a car.

The book is not only densely packed with detailed, carefully researched information including a comprehensive table of contents and index, but it also sparkles with creativity with its colorful scaled maps, color photos, plus song and food pairings that accompany each ride. It is the perfect book for both So Cal residents and for those touring the region, and the attractive volume makes a great gift for the cyclists on your list. enCYCLEpedia Southern California is being continually updated on its companion website, enCYCLEpedia.net, so that the information that you have invested in will remain current. It also contains additional features such as expanded ride descriptions available to book owners, news, new trail openings, live links mentioned in the book, and features.

For rides to be included in enCYCLEpedia, the scenery had to be beautiful, the trails mostly flat, and the traffic kept at bay. Routes were reverse engineered, starting with the most scenic places and evaluating how best to see them by bike. The rides exude the absolute joy of cycling that can be achieved if you're on the perfect trail. Distances are manageable, providing exercise without incapacitation. Orange County Register (May 22, 2015) There are guidebooks that are useful, and there are guidebooks that are entertaining to read--this new title is a unique combination of both. enCYCLEpedia is the best new cycling guidebook for Southern California. - Women's Adventure Magazine (April 2014) For the adventurer, Richard Fox takes us on a journey through Southern California's -- and the Coachella Valley's -- most leisurely and scenic bike rides. Add enCYCLEpedia to your must read list. Palm Springs Life magazine (July 2014) From the Author Just a couple of months more, and the wait will be over for the updated and improved 2nd Edition of enCYCLEpedia Southern California! Expect the new edition to be ready by early November 2017. The first edition has been out of print since August 2016 when the publisher went bankrupt. About the Author Richard Fox is a lifelong passionate bicyclist who travels the U.S. and Canada in an RV in search of the perfect easy and scenic bike rides. He holds an MS in Hydrology from UC Davis and worked for 25 years as an environmental and water resources consultant, writing hundreds of scientific reports. He segued into the guidebook arena with the critically lauded Pender Islands Handbook, a 400-page tome that covers hiking, biking, boating and everything else about that beautiful British Columbia Island.