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Collection of highlights from twenty-one Appalachian Trail blogs. Best Tent Camping: Virginia by Randy Porter takes outdoor enthusiasts to the most beautiful, yet lesser known, of the state's campsites, guaranteeing a peaceful retreat. Each entry provides the latest maps of the grounds and alerts readers to the best sites within the facility to ensure a rewarding and relaxing visit. Campsite ratings for beauty, privacy, spaciousness, quietness, security, and cleanliness help campers pick the perfect campground for any trip. In addition, each site entry

has complete contact and registration information, operating hours, and a list of restrictions. Directions to the site come complete with GPS coordinates to put travelers right at the main gate. For beginning adventurers and seasoned veterans alike, *Best Tent Camping: Virginia* makes any trip more gratifying and is the key to enjoying the great natural beauty of the Virginia landscape. New York Times bestselling author Allen St. John started off looking for the world's greatest guitar, but what he found instead was the world's greatest guitar builder. Living and working in Rugby, Virginia (population 7), retired rural mail carrier Wayne Henderson is a true American original, making America's finest instruments using little more than a pile of good wood and a sharp whittling knife. There's a 10-year waiting list for Henderson's heirloom acoustic guitars—and even a musical legend like Eric Clapton must wait his turn. Partly out of self-interest, St. John prods Henderson into finally building Clapton's guitar, and soon we get to pull up a dusty stool and watch this Stradivari in glue-stained blue jeans work his magic. The story that ensues will captivate you with its portrait of a world where craftsmanship counts more than commerce, and time is measured by old jokes, old-time music, and homemade lemon pies shared by good friends. This is the only complete guide to this 100,000-acre gem, revealing the region's vast mountain panoramas, intimate spruce-fir forests, peaceful tumbling waterfalls, and much more. See *America with 50 of Our Finest, Funniest, and Foremost Writers* Anthony Bourdain chases the fumigation truck in Bergen County, New Jersey Dave Eggers tells it straight: Illinois is Number 1 Louise Erdrich loses her bikini top in North Dakota Jonathan Franzen gets waylaid by New York's publicist...and personal attorney...and historian...and geologist John Hodgman explains why there is no such thing as a "Massachusettsian" Edward P. Jones makes the case: D.C. should be a state! Jhumpa Lahiri declares her reckless love for the Rhode Island coast Rick Moody explores the dark heart of Connecticut's Merritt Parkway, exit by exit Ann Patchett makes a pilgrimage to the Civil War site at Shiloh, Tennessee William T. Vollmann visits a San Francisco S&M club and *Many More!* Smokey, the stallion, tells what life is like as a wild pony living in Grayson Highlands State Park. Winner of a National Outdoor Book Award Honorable Mention, *Hiking Virginia* is indispensable for exploring the Commonwealth. Authors Bill and Mary Burnham breath fresh air into popular Virginia destinations, and explore commonly overlooked yet equally dramatic hikes. Explore the history of a young American nation; watch stories of lost cultures come alive; and imagine the ghosts of Indian raiders, moonshiners, and outlaws haunting the backcountry routes of the past. Packed with notes on plants, trees, and geology, plus a list of local attractions and "good eats and sleeps" for the weary hiker, *Hiking Virginia* covers the Commonwealth's outdoors from the sea shores to the mountain slopes, past and present. Also included is a special section detailing the Appalachian Trail through Virginia, taking thru-hikers along the six-week route from Damascus, Virginia to Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. Inside readers will find: full-color photos, detailed color maps, accurate route profiles showing the ups and downs of each hike, tips on equipment, trip planning, hiking with dogs and children, accurate directions, difficulty ratings, trail contacts, and more. With stories of 50 incredible hiking routes in 30 countries, from New Zealand to Peru, plus a further 150 suggestions, *Lonely Planet's Epic Hikes of the World* will inspire a lifetime of adventure on foot. From one-day jaunts and urban trails to month-long thru-hikes, cultural rambles and mountain expeditions, each journey shares one defining feature: being truly epic. In this follow-up to *Epic Bike Rides* and *Epic Drives*, we share our adventures on the world's best treks and trails. *Epic Hikes* is organized by continent, with each route brought to life by a first-person account, beautiful photographs and charming illustrated maps. Additionally, each hike includes

trip planning advice on how to get there, where to stay, what to pack and where to eat, as well as recommendations for three similar hikes in other regions of the world. Hikes featured include: Africa & the Middle East: Cape Town's Three Peaks (South Africa) Kilimanjaro (Tanzania) Camp to Camp in South Luangwa National Park (Zambia) Americas: Angel's Landing, Zion National Park (USA) Skyline Trail, Jasper National Park (Canada) Concepción volcano hike (Nicaragua) Asia: 88 Sacred Temples of Shikoku Pilgrimage (Japan) Markha Valley (India) Gubeikou to Jinshanling on the Great Wall (China) Europe: Wordsworth's Backyard: Dove Cottage and around Rydal and Grasmere (UK) Alpine Pass Route (Switzerland) Camino de Santiago (Spain) Oceania: Sydney's Seven Bridges Walk (Australia) The Routeburn Track (New Zealand) Kokoda Track (Papua New Guinea) About Lonely Planet: Lonely Planet is a leading travel media company and the world's number one travel guidebook brand, providing both inspiring and trustworthy information for every kind of traveller since 1973. Over the past four decades, we've printed over 145 million guidebooks and grown a dedicated, passionate global community of travellers. You'll also find our content online, on mobile, video and in 14 languages, 12 international magazines, armchair and lifestyle books, ebooks, and more. Important Notice: The digital edition of this book may not contain all of the images found in the physical edition.

I was about six years old and a bit feisty. Some things never change. My mama was fussing at me-so I decided to run away. Mama saw me packing a suitcase and asked what I was doing. "I'm running away," I told her. She informed me that it was probably for the best since she was so mean and all. She only had one condition: I was not allowed to take anything that she or my daddy had bought for me. We went through my Hello Kitty suitcase together and removed all such items-which left me with nothing, not even a suitcase. Mama cleared her throat and said, "Those shoes . . . we bought them . . . and the socks . . . and the shorts . . . and the shirt . . . oh, and those panties." Butt-naked, with my hand on my hip, I grabbed the lip gloss I had purchased with my own money and marched right out the door. I hopped on my bike, which was a gift from my godparents, and rode down the street to our music minister and his wife's house. I told them how my mama had taken away everything I owned but my lip gloss and my bicycle. I asked them if I could live with them.

--Emily Bray, 38 years old, Memory Project Participant Little Cabin on the Trail inspires folks to assign great value to their seemingly insignificant memories and encourages them to use those memories to become their family storytellers. Personal stories give everyone permission to pause and consider that there really is a bigger picture, an eternal picture, where past, present, and future generations are linked, not only through their blood, but through their stories. Little Cabin on the Trail will certainly entertain readers with its view into one very ordinary family's life; but more importantly, it will help them to realize that they, too, have stories just begging to be told--better stories . . . because they are theirs. Fully revised and updated, Hiking Waterfalls Virginia includes detailed hike descriptions, maps, and color photos for approximately 50 of the most scenic waterfall hikes in the state. Hike descriptions also include history, local trivia, and GPS coordinates. Hiking Waterfalls Virginia will take you through state and national parks, forests, monuments and wilderness areas, and from popular city parks to the most remote and secluded corners of the area to view the most spectacular waterfalls. Backpacker brings the outdoors straight to the reader's doorstep, inspiring and enabling them to go more places and enjoy nature more often. The authority on active adventure, Backpacker is the world's first GPS-enabled magazine, and the only magazine whose editors personally test the hiking trails, camping gear, and survival tips they publish. Backpacker's Editors' Choice Awards, an industry honor recognizing design, feature and

product innovation, has become the gold standard against which all other outdoor-industry awards are measured. In 1968, management of the Appalachian Trail shifted from control by an informal alliance of private-citizen volunteers to a designated responsibility of the National Park Service. To protect it from adverse development, Congress had made the trail part of the national park system and endorsed an unique private/public cooperative management system involving scores of private organizations and public jurisdictions. The volunteers still have the lead role in defining the work, but public agencies have the accountability. This June 1987 history is the inside story of how the pieces of that puzzle were put together, by the chairman of a group of volunteers and state-appointed officials that crafted this model of private/public stewardship of public recreational lands. Rich in angling lore, the secluded lakes and rivers of Virginia's Highlands offer some of the best trout and smallmouth bass fishing found anywhere in the state. From the Alleghany Highlands in the north (which encompass Alleghany, Bath, and Rockbridge counties) to the Blue Ridge/Grayson Highlands in the southwest (which include Grayson, Smythe, and Washington counties), these portions of the commonwealth offer many high-yield rivers, lakes, and streams including Lake Moomaw, the Maury River, South Holston Lake, and the North Fork of the Holston River. In his new guide, *Fishing Virginia's Highlands*, M. W. Smith extends his ongoing tour of the state's greatest fishing spots to these two remote regions, offering readers excellent advice on where, when, and how to catch more fish in Virginia's Highlands. Renowned for its mineral springs, the Alleghany Highlands is home to world-famous spas, including the Homestead in Bath County, making it a popular destination for many outdoor enthusiasts. The Blue Ridge/Grayson Highlands, which is surrounded by such cities as Abingdon, Bristol, Winston-Salem/Greensboro, and Charlotte, is also a common weekend getaway spot. By considering these two areas in one volume, Smith provides valuable information for anglers and other visitors, giving readers the information they need to enjoy the natural beauty of the waters and to catch more fish from them. Complete with a comprehensive map of the regions' streams, notes on specific fishing locations keyed to maps in DeLorme's Virginia Atlas and Gazetteer, and an appendix that lists local guide services, tackle shops, camping sites, and parks, Smith's guidebook is a compact and informative resource. Whether you are a visitor or a longtime resident, novice angler or pro, *Fishing Virginia's Highlands* will prove an indispensable guide to every fishing adventure you undertake in highland waters. *Grayson County Virginia Fishing & Floating Guide Book* Over 845 full 8 1/2 x 11 sized pages of information with maps and aerial photographs available. Fishing information is included for ALL of the county's public ponds and lakes, listing types of fish for each pond or lake, average sizes, and exact locations with GPS coordinates and directions. Also included is fishing information for most of the streams and rivers including access points and public areas with road contact and crossing points and also includes fish types and average sizes. NEW NEW Now with a complete set of full sized U.S.G.S. Topographical Maps for the entire county that normally cost from \$12.00 to \$14.00 each but are included on the disk for FREE. These maps are complete full sized 7.5 minute series quadrangle maps in 1:24,000 scale maps. Contains complete information on Baldwin Branch Big Horse Creek Big Wilson Creek Bournes Branch Byers Creek Cabin Creek Chestnut Creeks (WW) Clems Branch Comers Rock Creek Elk Creek (WW) Elk Creek North Branch Fox Creeks Guffy Creek Hales Lakes Hanks Branch Helton Creeks Houndshell Branch Jerry Creek Laurel Creek Lewis Fork Little Helton Creek Little Wilson Creek Mill Creek Mill Creek 2 New River Old Bridal Creek Opossum Creek Parks Creek Piney Creek Quebec Branch Ripshin Creek Roberts Cove Run Shupe Creek Soloman Branch Whitetop Creek Wilbern Branch

(WEW) is whitewater A 41-year-old engineer quits his job to hike the Appalachian Trail. This is a true account of his hike from Georgia to Maine, bringing to the reader the life of the towns and the people he meets along the way. Scenic Routes & Byways Virginia features nearly twenty-five separate drives through the Old Dominion. An indispensable highway companion, Scenic Routes & Byways Virginia includes full-color photos, route maps and in-depth descriptions of attractions. It's Time to Take a Hike in Richmond, Virginia! The best way to experience Richmond is by hiking it! Get outdoors with authors Phillip Riggan and Nathan Lott, with the new full-color edition of 60 Hikes Within 60 Miles: Richmond. A perfect blend of popular trails and hidden gems, the selected trails transport you to scenic overlooks, wildlife hot spots, and historical settings that renew your spirit and recharge your body. You'll learn about the area and experience nature through 60 of the River City's best hikes! Each hike description features key at-a-glance information on distance, difficulty, scenery, traffic, hiking time, and more, so you can quickly and easily learn about each trail. Detailed directions, GPS-based trail maps, and elevation profiles help to ensure that you know where you are and where you're going. Tips on nearby activities further enhance your enjoyment of every outing. Whether you're a local looking for new places to explore or a visitor to the area, 60 Hikes Within 60 Miles: Richmond provides plenty of options for a couple hours or a full day of adventure, all within about an hour from Richmond and the surrounding communities. A century ago, legendary photographer Edward Curtis set about to capture the traditional world of Native Americans before that world vanished. Now, Ben Greenberg has done the same for the natural areas of Virginia. Devoted to preserving and celebrating Virginia's diverse but sometimes threatened natural richness, Greenberg has spent years creating a collection of more than one hundred stunning images that range from the Commonwealth's most well-known to its rarely explored landscapes. By framing all of these photographs—whether of the Shenandoah Valley in full fall blaze or of Tidewater piers in the afterglow of sunset—as panoramas, Greenberg heightens the drama and immediacy of the moment, forging an enduring composite portrait that captures Virginia's natural heritage and at the same time reminds us of its fragility. Natural Virginia divides the state into three regions: the Tidewater, Piedmont, and the Western mountains and valleys. The images in each, whether of a great blue heron emerging from river mists or of an almost leafless autumnal tree on Skyline Drive, convey a sense of grandeur while simultaneously inviting the viewer in to the intimacy of the settings, as though one might be able to smell the musk of the salt flats or to feel the brush of the fall wind. The photographs highlight the wide-ranging diversity of the Commonwealth's national and state parks, wildlife refuges and management areas, their rivers, lakes, mountains, and wild creatures. Deane Dozier's introductory essays to each region offer further insight into the geography and geology of Virginia. Pres. Franklin Roosevelt's establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1933 had lasting conservation impacts across the nation. Virginia joined this effort when Will Carson of the Virginia Conservation Commission convinced Roosevelt to use the Civilian Conservation Corps to build a state park system. Virginia is distinguished as the only state in the nation to open a system of state parks on one day. On June 15, 1936, the first six state parks--Douthat, Seashore (present day First Landing), Hungry Mother, Fairy Stone, Westmoreland, and Staunton River State Parks--were opened. From these humble beginnings, the commonwealth has developed over 35 diverse, award-winning state parks. From seashore to mountains, take a journey across Virginia through a vast array of landscapes and unrivaled natural and cultural resources. National Geographic's Trails Illustrated map of Mount Rogers High Country is a two-sided, waterproof map designed to

meet the needs of outdoor enthusiasts with unmatched durability and detail. This map was created in conjunction with local land management agencies and is loaded with valuable recreation information. Trails Illustrated maps are expertly researched and frequently updated. The maps are printed in the United States on durable synthetic paper, making them waterproof, tear-resistant, and trail tough capable of going anywhere you do. The map is two-sided, and can be folded to a packable size of 4.25 x 9.25; unfolded size is 26 x 38. Net proceeds from the sale of this map go to support the nonprofit mission of the National Geographic Society. Key Features: - Waterproof and tear-resistant - Clearly marked trails for hiking, biking, horseback riding, ATV, and more - Detailed topography and clearly defined, color-coded boundaries of state parks, national recreation areas, wilderness areas, marine sanctuaries and wildlife refuges - Hundreds of points-of-interest, including scenic viewpoints, campgrounds, boat launches and canoe carry downs, swimming areas, fishing access points, and more - UTM and Latitude/Longitude grid, as well as selected waypoints and a scale bar for easy and accurate navigation. - Detailed road network - Useful travel information on parks and key trails - Important safety information and tips - Information about local organizations and land management agencies

"Get your head into the clouds with Aerial Geology." —The New York Times Book Review *Aerial Geology* is an up-in-the-sky exploration of North America's 100 most spectacular geological formations. Crisscrossing the continent from the Aleutian Islands in Alaska to the Great Salt Lake in Utah and to the Chicxulub Crater in Mexico, Mary Caperton Morton brings you on a fantastic tour, sharing aerial and satellite photography, explanations on how each site was formed, and details on what makes each landform noteworthy. Maps and diagrams help illustrate the geological processes and clarify scientific concepts. Fact-filled, curious, and way more fun than the geology you remember from grade school, *Aerial Geology* is a must-have for the insatiably curious, armchair geologists, million-mile travelers, and anyone who has stared out the window of a plane and wondered what was below. Whether headed to the rugged backcountry, a day of scenic driving, or a summer vacation, the *HIGHROAD GUIDES* lead you to the best the mountains have to offer. Includes a minimum of 55 new maps, natural history information, and other general traveler's information. Written by award-winning nature journalist Garvey Winegar and acclaimed outdoor writer/nature photographer Deane Dozier Winegar.

Derick Lugo had never been hiking. He didn't even know if he liked being outside all that much. He certainly couldn't imagine going more than a day without manicuring his goatee. But with a job overseas cut short and no immediate plans, this fixture of the greater New York comedy circuit began to think about what he might do with months of free time and no commitments. He had heard of the Appalachian Trail and knew of its potential for danger and adventure, but he had never seriously considered attempting to hike all 2,192 miles of it. Then again, what could go wrong for a young black man from the city trekking solo through the East Coast backwoods? *The Unlikely Thru-Hiker* is the story of how an unknowing ambassador of one of the AT's least common demographics, unfamiliar with both the outdoors and thru-hiking culture, sets off with an extremely overweight pack and a willfully can-do attitude to conquer the infamous trail. What follows are eye-opening lessons on preparation, humility, race relations, and nature's wild unpredictability. But this isn't a hard-nosed memoir of discouragement or intolerance. What sets Lugo apart from the typical walk in the woods is his refusal to let any challenge squash his inner Pollyanna. Through it all, he perseveres with humor, tenacity, and an unshakeable commitment to grooming--earning him the trail name "Mr. Fabulous"--that sees him from Springer Mountain in Georgia to Katahdin in Maine. It's no surprise that fatalities occur every year in Great Smoky Mountains

National Park due to the sheer number of visitors--more than ten million annually! In these cautionary tales, Bradley recounts deaths and other unfortunate incidents that have resulted from accidents and human folly, including bear attacks, swift water disasters, and mysterious disappearances. Armchair travelers and park visitors alike will be fascinated by the dangers lurking in America's most visited national park and will be better informed about what to do and what not to do the next time they enter its gates. Explores the hiking and riding trails in the highlands of Western North Carolina, Northeast Tennessee, and Southwest Virginia. This work includes instructions to the 90 trails, regional maps, a ratings index, photographs and observations. Their grandeur takes our breath away. Their gentle sound compliments periods of meditation. Regardless of their size, waterfalls create in the observer a feeling of serenity, a sense of restrained power. To discover a falls is sublime, and now *Waterfalls of Virginia and West Virginia* is available to guide willing adventurers to locate easy as well as challenging waterfalls in the Old Dominion and Mountain States. This complete and comprehensive guide offers clear directions to over 200 waterfalls open to the public. In addition to a brief description of each falls, at-a-glance information including height, type, size of watershed, and difficulty of access help readers choose which waterfall to visit and when. Directions on photography, including how to set up the best shot--from time of day, angle, direction to location--makes this book indispensable to professional and amateur photographers. From Shenandoah National Park to New River Gorge National River, from the Monongahela National Forest to the George Washington and Jefferson National Forest, this book has a waterfall to fit any readers mood or sense of adventure. *Waterfalls of Virginia and West Virginia* is the only guidebook to the waterfalls of these two states. *Linville Gorge/Mount Mitchell, Pisgah National Forest Adventure Set* consists of a Pocket Naturalist Guide and National Geographic Map, offering a perfect resource for travelers wanting "hands on" information on what to see and where to go to find some of the world's most dramatic natural attractions. *Waterford's SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN TRAIL WILDLIFE* highlights over 140 familiar species of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and insects and is laminated for durability. It is packed with National Geographic's *Linville Gorge/Mount Mitchell, Pisgah National Forest Trails Illustrated Map* which contains detailed topographic information, plus useful traveling tips, and regional information. Encompassing more than 140,000 acres of scenic beauty in southwestern Virginia, the Mount Rogers National Recreation Area offers outdoor enthusiasts a myriad of activities, from hiking, camping, and fishing to horseback riding, picnicking, swimming, tour driving, and biking. In the only comprehensive guidebook for this region, now newly updated, Johnny Molloy covers all of these activities and more, providing visitors with everything they need, including detailed maps, to enjoy the entire Mount Rogers area--one of the true jewels of Southern Appalachia. Molloy details the more than 430 miles of marked and maintained trails that criss-cross the Mount Rogers NRA and nearby Grayson Highlands State Park. Organized both by type, such as long trails and rail trails, and the areas they cover, including West Side, Central Area, Far East, and High Country, the trail descriptions include comprehensive, narratives of each hike, noting the various trail junctions, stream crossings, and trailside features with their distances from the trailhead. With each trail summary is an information box that offers quick access to such pertinent data as trail type (foot, horse, and/or bike), difficulty, length, degree of use, trail connections, and highlights. Complementing the sections on the extensive trail system are chapters on many other recreational options. Anglers will find lists of the best streams and tips for both fly and spin-cast fishing. For those seeking a way to cool off after a mountain excursion, the book locates the area's favorite swimming holes. Molloy also reveals the best

roads from which to view the gorgeous scenery and wildlife of the Mount Rogers area. Rounding out the guidebook is information on national forest and state park campgrounds, picnic areas, and accommodations and services in nearby towns, including motels, bed-and-breakfasts, outfitters, and stores."

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