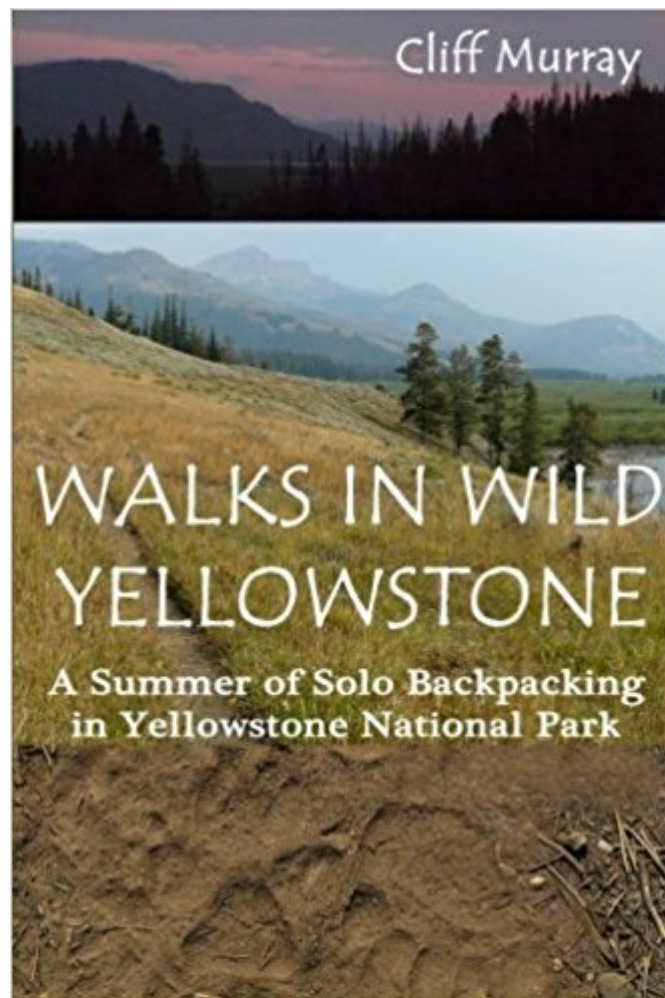




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Walks In Wild Yellowstone: A Summer Of Solo Backpacking In Yellowstone National Park



Synopsis

Walks in Wild Yellowstone is the story of four solo backpacking trips across some of the remote areas in Yellowstone National Park: Sky Rim; Hoodoo Basin; Thorofare; and Bechler. This book takes you on treks to these areas in the course of a single summer. As a vicarious traveler in the Yellowstone backcountry, you'll walk trails marked only with tracks of bears and wolves, cross mountain ranges and ford mighty riversâ€”the Yellowstone, Snake, and the Bechlerâ€”and experience the beauty of wild Yellowstone. Along the way, you'll explore the history, geology, and ecology of the park. When the journey is complete, youâ€™ll have a better feel for these remote areas of Yellowstone and how they are all interconnected.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Cliff Murray has been backpacking in the Northern Rockies for over twenty years, making hasty trips to the mountains in and around Yellowstone whenever his job as a corporate attorney would allow. It was never often enough. During the times he was stuck in a big city far away, he searched for books that could transport him to the Yellowstone backcountry. Unable to find what he was looking for, he vowed to write his own book, if he could ever find time to get away and complete the backcountry treks. That time finally came in 2012, and Cliff spent the summer making four extensive backpacking treks across the Yellowstone wilderness. His experiences are in this book, a book addressed to his former office-bound self and to others who wish they could be in Yellowstone but find themselves somewhere too far away.

Walks in Wild Yellowstone provides the armchair hiker-camper with an in-depth and up close Yellowstone experience. I love the greater Yellowstone ecosystem and have done quite a bit of day hiking in the area. Would love to get deeper into the wild but admit to an attachment to modern comforts (particularly a good meal and a nice IPA) after a day of hiking. Thanks to Cliff Murray I enjoyed a vicarious camping experience and yet more appreciation for the truly special place that Yellowstone is and why it is more important than ever that we preserve it.

This is an enjoyable read that flows easily from one backcountry hike onto the next. As you feel yourself walking down the trail with the author, you are instantly transported into the wild and natural Yellowstone backcountry — except you — you get to do it from the comforts of home. The poetic writing also transports you with the beauty and imagery of Yellowstone's blooming flowers, shimmering waters and breezes swaying graceful over expansive meadows. You will notice a big smile as you feel a sense of solitude and your soul begins to quiet. But keep reading. Hilarity ensues with Park Rangers concerned about spooking horses, and then on another trip you have to determine just how long is acceptable to get out of your tent on a cool morning for a Ranger required camp check. You will laugh and you will be moved, but you will not find a book that is anything like it in any Yellowstone annals. The history is informative and fascinating, but without taking sides on controversial issues, and yet you feel informed without any bias. A refreshing history lesson always folds right into the next hike, on the next trail, or towards a waterfall. The poetic writing feels like a warm embrace as you walk down many trails that transcend you deep into a Yellowstone that is shared only with those willing to make that long trek.

This is a first-hand account of four epic, week-long (or longer) backpacking trips that the author took in Yellowstone. He visited some of Yellowstone's most remote areas, took extensive notes (apparently -- or has an amazing memory) and recreated these trips -- the sounds, the smells, the people, the wildlife, the scenery, the campsites -- for the rest of us. I enjoyed reliving some of the trails that I have been on (Bechler Canyon and Union Falls) and experiencing some of the areas of Yellowstone that I have only dreamed of seeing (the Hoodoos, Thorofare and the Sky Rim). The author has an easygoing, conversational writing style that makes you feel like you are on the trail with him. At the same time, he appears to achieve a mindfulness in Yellowstone that is inspiring, and this comes out in his writing. The author blended well researched discussions of Yellowstone's history, geology and wildlife into his descriptions. People who enjoy hiking or backpacking and people who are interested in Yellowstone will enjoy this book.

This is a great book. I normally enjoy fiction, but this is a wonderful work of non-fiction. It is about Cliff's journeys through Yellowstone and has marvelous descriptions of the hike, nature, and the animals. I really enjoyed the information about national park history, wildlife conservation, and the etiquette and safety rules of the wilderness. Cliff has a knack for being humorous, casual and profound in his observations of the world. The writing is beautiful. Cliff is very talented. I am so thankful he wrote this so I can know something about the wilds of Yellowstone while staying home where there is a proper toilet and shower and where I am less likely to get lost and or eaten by a bear.

It has been several years since an product of any type has prompted me to write a review but Cliff Murray's book I feel deserves accolades. The writing style and commentary I feel was perfect. Many times books on Yellowstone concentrate too much on trail difficulties and the author's lack of shape or difficulties putting together a trip. Mr. Murray's book covers four large backcountry areas in an easy to read manner while also interspersing park and wildlife history. I've read probably 75 books or ebooks on Yellowstone and this is easily one of my favorites.

Wonderful book...I have spent many years hiking as well as working in Yellowstone. This author captured it...unfortunatley he also let people know about some of my favorite and least used areas. But he understands the awe that you feel there, and that seems to never change...

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