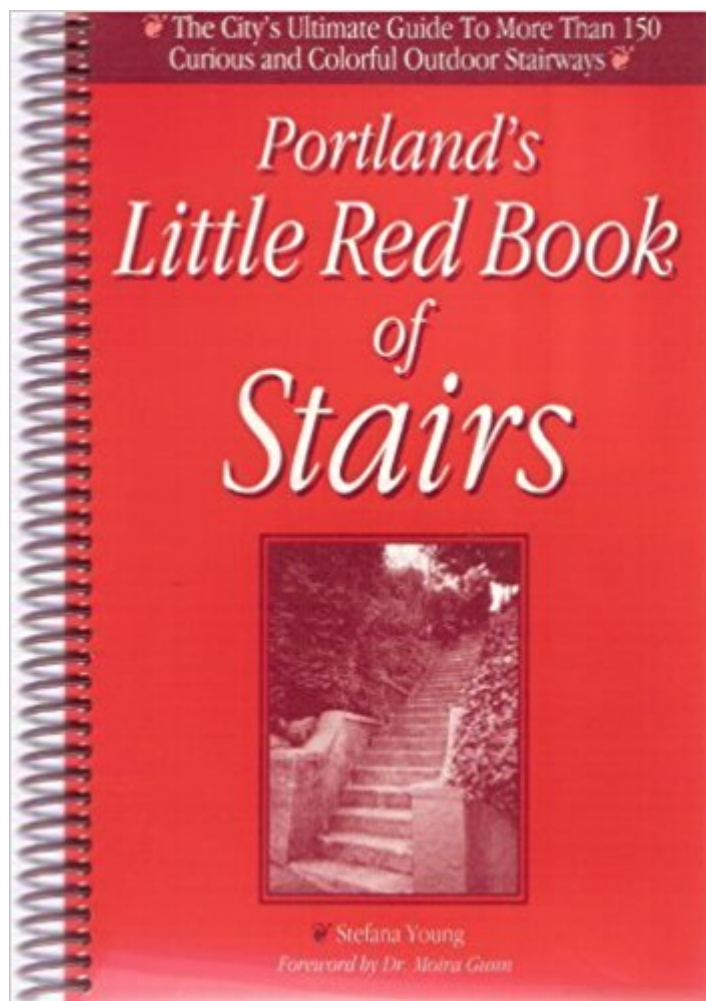


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Portland's Little Red Book Of Stairs



Synopsis

A walking tour of Portland (Oregon)'s challenging, scenic and historic stairways. Portland's Little Red book of Stairs is the ultimate guidebook to over 150 outdoor public stairways in Portland - from a graceful cascade of brick steps in Laurelhurst Park to a steel lung-buster in the Northwest Hills, Portland's Little Red book of Stairs adds a whole new dimension to the outdoor urban experience for visitors and Portland lifers alike. The book guides you through some of the city's most beautiful neighborhoods and parks all the while dropping historical tidbits, architectural perspectives and amusing anecdotes along the way. So whether you're looking for an urban adventure or gearing up for the Portland Marathon, Portland's Little Red Book of Stairs offers a whole new twist to your active life. "Having walked the distance of around the world within our city, it's a pleasure to have this creative book to take me on yet new and undiscovered routes." - Chet Orloff, executive director, Oregon Historical Society "Forget Julie Andrews. Take Stefana's advice: Climb every staircase." - Jonathan Nicholas, columnist, The Oregonian "I've spent a lifetime avoiding these stairs; Stefana shows what a mistake I've made. what a climber." - Paul Linnman, news anchor, KATU-TV "Portland's stairways are historically unique, fun to walk and lead to interesting places. You couldn't ask for more than that - except perhaps a book to tell us more about them. Now we have that too." - Bill Hoffman, manager, Pedestrian Transportation Program, City of Portland Includes steps in Alameda, Arlington Heights, Beaumont, Council Crest, Downtown, Goose Hollow, Healy Heights, Hillside, Lair Hill, Laurelhurst Park, Linnton, Mt. Tabor, "Pill Hill", Portland Heights, Southwest Hills, Terwilliger, Washington Park, Willamette Heights and more.

Book Information

Spiral-bound: 207 pages

Publisher: Coobus Press; 1 edition (December 1996)

ISBN-10: 0965541878

ISBN-13: 978-0965541879

Package Dimensions: 8.5 x 5.5 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,293,054 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 in Books > Travel > United States > Oregon > General #75 in Books > Travel > United States > Oregon > Portland

Customer Reviews

A walking tour of Portland (Oregon)'s challenging, scenic and historic stairways. Portland's Little

Red book of Stairs is the ultimate guidebook to over 150 outdoor public stairways in Portland - from a graceful cascade of brick steps in Laurelhurst Park to a steel lung-buster in the Northwest Hills, Portland's Little Red book of Stairs adds a whole new dimension to the outdoor urban experience for visitors and Portland lifers alike. The book guides you through some of the city's most beautiful neighborhoods and parks all the while dropping historical tidbits, architectural perspectives and amusing anecdotes along the way. So whether you're looking for an urban adventure or gearing up for the Portland Marathon, Portland's Little Red Book of Stairs offers a whole new twist to your active life. "Having walked the distance of around the world within our city, it's a pleasure to have this creative book to take me on yet new and undiscovered routes." - Chet Orloff, executive director, Oregon Historical Society "Forget Julie Andrews. Take Stefana's advice: Climb every staircase." - Jonathan Nicholas, columnist, The Oregonian "I've spent a lifetime avoiding these stairs; Stefana shows what a mistake I've made. what a climber." - Paul Linnman, news anchor, KATU-TV "Portland's stairways are historically unique, fun to walk and lead to interesting places. You couldn't ask for more than that - except perhaps a book to tell us more about them. Now we have that too." - Bill Hoffman, manager, Pedestrian Transportation Program, City of Portland Includes steps in Alameda, Arlington Heights, Beaumont, Council Crest, Downtown, Goose Hollow, Healy Heights, Hillside, Lair Hill, Laurelhurst Park, Linnton, Mt. Tabor, "Pill Hill", Portland Heights, Southwest Hills, Terwilliger, Washington Park, Willamette Heights and more.

This book is out of print and could be considered the ultimate authority on Portland stairways; some of which are more than one-hundred years old. It was a great find.

Public staircases are one of those features of the urban landscape that can easily be taken for granted, or overlooked. Often situated between houses, many of them appear to the casual observer to lead into a private yard, their true nature not readily apparent. The author has done a thorough job in locating these elusive pathways. I did find myself wishing for a map showing the location of the stairs mentioned. The author gives detailed directions and Thomas Brothers' references, however, even a simple map would assist in visualizing where the stairs are in relation to each other and planning excursions in the same area. Despite the author's obvious effort to include everything, the stairs between Burnside and the Skidmore Fountain were missing. As the fastest passage between the 20 bus line and MAX, and clearly visible from the Saturday Market, I would have expected any Portland resident to be aware of them. More forgivable is the absence of several stairways off NW Skyline, leading to neighborhoods in the West Hills. None of

these faults, however, detracts from the book's value. Unfortunately, it is out of print, and therefore either unavailable or outrageously expensive. The Multnomah County Library has a few copies available for viewing (not checkout) at the Downtown branch; the waiting list for the sole circulating copy was up to 19 the last time I checked. At three weeks per person, that could mean waiting over a year for it. However, there was no waiting list for the one copy in the Clackamas County system, at the Lake Oswego branch.

The holidays are coming. Buy this book for a friend who thinks she or he knows Portland. It's becoming rare. I wouldn't part with my copies, and am acquiring more as I find them. Once you read it, you'll probably see why.

great review of the many stairs and staircases of portland This could be a great start to a series of stair books detailing a number of different cities well done

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