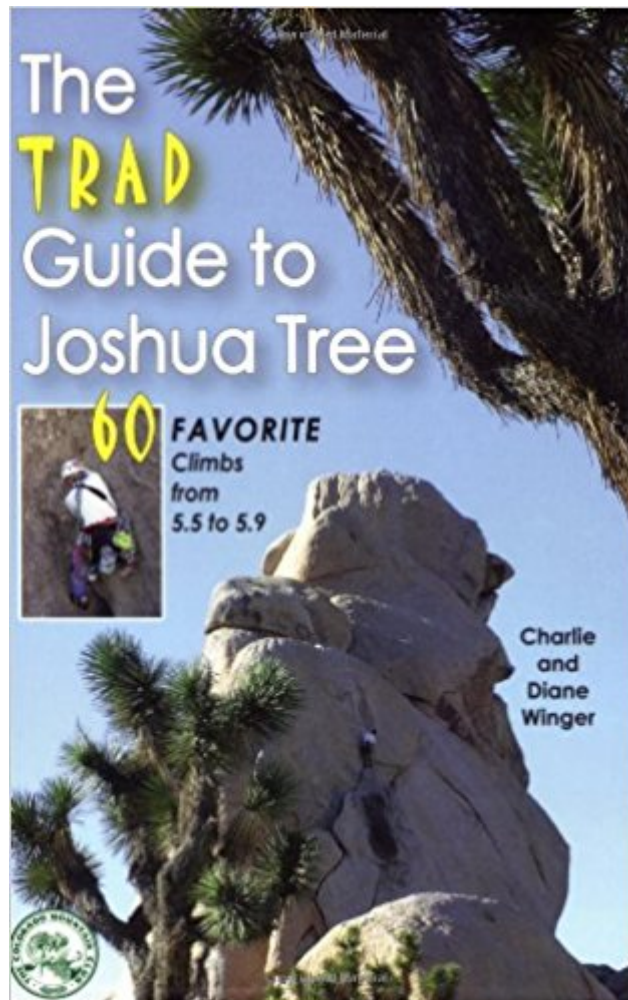




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# The Trad Guide To Joshua Tree: 60 Favorite Climbs From 5.5 To 5.9



## Synopsis

\* Detailed directions to locate each climb\* Full-color photos of every route\* High-quality, moderate climbs that are sure to become your favorites\* Descent instructions for every climbMany climbers who visit Joshua Tree spend as much time searching for good routes as they do actually climbing. This guidebook offers the moderate climber a fun, varied and challenging "tick-list" of 60 great Trad climbs, and makes it easy to find your way around. With color photos of every route, detailed maps, and easy-to-follow driving and hiking directions, you'll be able to climb numerous routes per day and make the most of your climbing trip.Key features of each climb are described, and you'll even know what to expect when you reach the top of a route and want to set up an anchor and later descend. Are you looking for an area with a concentration of a certain grade or climb? Color-coded overview maps will help you choose your spot. Charlie Winger is a prolific mountaineer who has climbed hundreds of peaks in Colorado, California, the 99 peaks on the Sierra Club's Desert Peaks List, 5 of the 7 continental summits, and much more. Diane takes a more relaxed approach to hiking, with some of her favorites being treks in New Zealand, Peru, and Nepal.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Far from the chicken-scratch mimeographs I've used, this new climber's manual on Joshua Tree National Park gives you what you really want from a guidebook (Los Angeles Times)An impressive degree of organization—Route descriptions are clear and concise—Perhaps the most helpful part of the book is the photographs that highlight each route in yellow. They provide a dose

of confidence for climbers still learning to pick the best way up the wall. A wealth of information for anyone who'd like to explore this classic climbing destination. (Arizona Republic) Includes far more information than that provided in most climbing area guides. Profusely illustrated with color maps and photos. Will be especially popular with new trad climbers looking for a to-do list for the Joshua Tree climbers' playground. (Los Angeles Daily News) The book covers, in extensive detail, some of the best introductory crack climbs in the park. Organized in a user-friendly way. (The Inyo (CA) Register) A handy, well-detailed guide. (San Francisco Chronicle) Charlie and Diane Winger have definitely done something different with this guidebook to J-Tree. [They] show you that a single picture can be worth a thousand words. This guidebook offers the moderate climber a fun, varied, and challenging "tick-list" of 60 great trad climbs, and makes it easy to find your way around. An exceptional guidebook for moderate climbers wanting to get the most out of their road trip to this desert rock oasis. (Camp4.com) These climbs will test the abilities of rock climbers able to climb bolted routes with higher ratings and yet they are within the capabilities of the majority of dedicated weekend warriors. This book called to me to take a sentimental journey back through time. Buy this book and take a road trip to Joshua Tree for me. (Traditional mountaineering.org) Attractive photo-based guide. Very useful and useable for those on short holidays and [who] just want to find the best moderate [routes] the area has to offer. (Gripped)

CHARLIE WINGER has 25-plus years of hiking and mountaineering experience. Both Charlie and Dian Winger, co-author and spouse, are active in the national Highpointers Club. They live in Beulah, Colorado. DIANE WINGER has been a rock climber since the 1980s but admits her favorite activity now is trekking around the globe.

Bought this for my first trip to JTree and my first trad climbing trip ever. The maps were so great we never got lost and found ourselves walking straight to routes and not having to search. I loved that I could be certain I was on the correct route and not get in too far over my head. Often I found myself standing right where the pictures were taken from! Being able to easily and quickly find good routes within our ability and not having to filter through hundreds of harder climbs to find them made our trip very enjoyable. One thing I would have liked is if there was a good description on the option to walk around and set up a top rope if possible. Some routes we pushed the grade a bit, and found we could have top roped pretty easily without nearly as much stress. But that "puts hair on your

chest", I guess. Maybe some day I'll be leading harder than 5.9 trad, and then I will happily outgrow this book. But, for the next trip or two, I think it will do just fine. We specifically found on Gargoyle that the descent was described incorrectly. It described a 4th class down climb, but I would have called it a 5th class ~first crack down climb and I definitely didn't want to do it. Luckily, there were a couple of bolts a few feet overhead that were not mentioned in the book. I didn't see them until my partner walked around and saw them, but I was very glad they were there. Easy rappel.

This is a very user-friendly mini-guide to a huge and varied climbing destination. For the first-time visitor, or for someone wanting to make good use of a brief trip to Joshua Tree, this is exactly what one would wish for. But...wish no more, for here it is! Unlike the more comprehensive guides that feature lots of "stars" by climbs, this little book has separated lots of chaff from the good stuff. Also, not everyone can, or is interested in climbing rock at the highest grades; after all, difficulty does not necessarily equate to quality. What I really liked about this guidebook: (1) A nice selection of potentially "do-able" climbs for a wide spectrum of personal abilities. (2) Very nice presentation, in an easy to understand and use format. (3) Beautiful full color illustrations. (4) Good directions for FINDING THE CLIMBS! (5) A nice balance between crack, face, and friction routes. The down side: (1) Could have been a bit wider in scope, and included Indian Cove and Quail Springs areas. (2) Maybe expanded to a hundred climbs? Overall, I would recommend this book as a "Must read" for any Joshua Tree visiting climber.

I used this book in conjunction with the Vogel Guides: Rock Climbing Joshua Tree & Rock Climbing Joshua Tree West. The interesting thing about this book is many of the routes don't have any stars in the Vogel guides but are stellar. Funny Bone comes to mind as the best route we did with Vogel giving it no stars. Coincidentally we ran into Charlie and Diane Winger coming off Funny Bone as we were walking up to it. The approaches are described in great deal of detail. This is good considering the size and number of routes at J-Tree. This is a great guide to get you on routes that perhaps you'd skip based on Randy's guides. This is no dig on Randy's Guides. They are great and a necessity. This guide allows you to find some really good moderate climbs with alternates nearby. We were generally pleased with the routes we climbed that are listed in this guide. Climb Safe!

Sometimes, as the saying goes, less is more. This book is an example of a user friendly rock climbing guide that limits its scope to climbs that most people who go to Joshua Tree actually engage in. As the title stipulates there are no 5.12 sphincter squeezers here, just interesting

traditional climbs. Each climb is photographed in color with a graphic overlay clearly showing the route. Most of these are short, single pitch climbs that encompass a wide variety of problems with the emphasis on classic crack climbs. Approach info and the minimum protection requirement is noted along with a very abbreviated strategy for the climb. Information on lodging and camping along with dining options are covered pretty well, though the surrounding areas offer a lot more variety than the book indicates. If you're a beginner/intermediate climber and aspire to climb in JT, this is the guide to get.

First of all, this book is written by some really nice people. This book is void of the elitism that usually comes with a guide book to an area like this. My wife and I have been to J-tree many times but this was our first year with this book. It truly enhanced our time there. The full color pictures are great, and they took all the pictures from such logical places that if you are following a road or trail and find yourself needing direction, you look up and see exactly what is in the picture for the climb you are looking for. My wife and I found ourselves laughing on one climb when we were looking off in the distance for a rock formation and spotted the tree 6' in front of us that was also about 6' in front of the camera lens in the picture! And there are climbs that real people can do! I notice in other guide books the only highly rated climbs are 5.12 and up! Get this book, you won't be disappointed. I only wish I could meet the authors and tell them of my appreciation.

Pictures are awesome. Descriptions are A+. Joshua Tree has way more to offer than this...but if you are only going to get 1-3 days out there and want to spend it climbing you can absolutely use the info in the book to decide on your climbs. Keep in mind that quite a few people have this book so you can expect to find folks on the more accessible climbs.

This is a well written and well illustrated guide for someone new to visiting Joshua Tree National Park. The dozen or so routes we did in this book were all challenging and enjoyable. There are thousands of routes in the Park, but this is a swell introduction for the traditional climber. At this price I don't see why any climber visiting the park wouldn't have a copy. The photographs and maps are the best I have seen in any book.

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