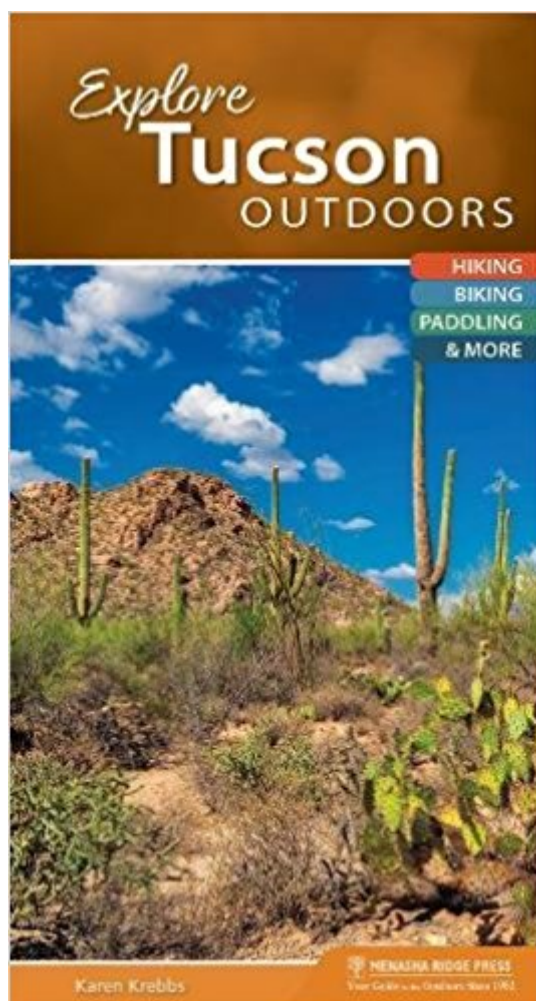


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# Explore Tucson Outdoors: Your Guide To Hiking, Biking, Paddling, And More



## Synopsis

With more than 20 walks and hikes, *Explore Tucson Outdoors* is your introduction to Tucson's best scenic walks and hikes. Written by naturalist Karen Krebbs, this quick guide features everything from relaxing strolls amid gardens, museums, and city parks to scenic hikes in both portions of the nearby Saguaro National Park, as well as the Santa Catalina Mountains and Tucson Mountain Park. Evenly split between walks in the city and hikes in Tucson's wild backyard, it has something for everyone. So get outside, take a walk, and enjoy the best that Tucson has to offer.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Karen Krebbs worked at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum for more than 26 years and has extensive knowledge of birds, mammals, plants, reptiles, insects, deserts, and animal adaptations and behavior. Her passion for hummingbirds has resulted in a book, book chapters, scientific papers, and also a husbandry manual for captive hummingbirds for the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Her research on hummingbirds includes migration, nesting biology, behavior, song development, and longevity. Karen regularly advises zoological institutions and aviaries on the proper care and husbandry of captive hummingbirds. She has conducted educational workshops and seminars on Sonoran Desert animals and plants for various organizations, schools, yearly wildlife festivals, and local conservation groups. Karen has also studied bats for more than 30 years; she presents lectures, leads workshops, and trains government employees on the proper handling

and protocol for studying bats. She has led and co-led natural history trips in Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Mexico, Baja, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Galapagos, and Africa. Karen, an avid hiker, camper, photographer, and natural history traveler, has a B.Sc. degree in Wildlife & Fisheries Science from the University of Arizona. She has lived in Tucson, Arizona, for more than 50 years.

**Birding and Nature Trails (Catalina State Park)**  
**Description:** A Birding and Nature Trail available at Catalina State Park for birding and nature enthusiasts.  
**Difficulty:** Both trails are fairly easy. There is a brief upward climb at the beginning of the Nature Trail.  
**Length:** Two 1-mile loops for both trails.  
**Elevation:** 2,720 to 2,805 feet  
**Best Season:** September to May; Birding is best early in the morning.  
**Highlights:** Both hikes are pleasant and not strenuous. Interpretive signs line both trails and the views of the Catalina Mountains are spectacular. The trails are appropriate for families and children.  
**Directions:** 32.2532N, 110.5428W; Drive north on Oracle Road (AZ 77) to the entrance of Catalina State Park (about 12 miles north of Grant Road) on the right side of the road. The trails are 2 miles northeast on the paved road and the park entrance. **Additional Information:** The Nature Trail sign is located north of the parking lot. Interpretive signs line the trail, as well as concrete animal footprints of common desert animals. The views include Romero Canyon and the Catalina Mountains to the east and Pusch Ridge and Sutherland Wash to the south. Benches are also available along the trail. At the end of the trail turn east (left) to the Birding Trail. You will cross the Sutherland Wash to the Birding Trail. The trail passes through a mesquite bosque habitat and gradually climbs up railroad ties. Benches and interpretive signs also line this trail and there are views of Pusch Ridge. [www.azstateparks.com/parks/cata](http://www.azstateparks.com/parks/cata)

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