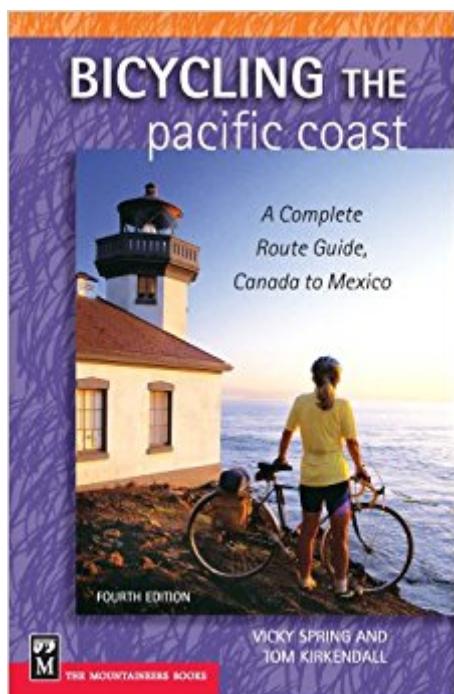


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# Bicycling The Pacific Coast: A Complete Route Guide, Canada To Mexico



## **Synopsis**

CLICK HEREÂ to download the 42 mile ride near Anacortes and the 48 mile ride along the Oregon Coast from Bicycling the Pacific Coast\* Bicycle touring the Pacific Coast is outlined in one trip or four separate adventures\* Road directions, points of interest, and available restrooms and provisions all built into daily mileage logs \* Elevation profiles and Table of Essentials overview for each day's rideFrom Canada to the Mexican border, Bicycling the Pacific Coast is the most popular guidebook to bicycle touring this gorgeous edge of the U.S. Tom Kirkendall and Vicky Spring guide you turn by turn along the length of Pacific Coast Bicycle Route -- all 1816.5 miles. These forty-two suggested daily itineraries (averaging 53 miles each) begin and end at campsites. Everything you need to know about each day's ride is included: from tunnel-riding strategies to where to buy a new derailer, from one-of-a-kind museums along the way to side trips to lonely lighthouses and towering sand dunes. Cyclists will find a quick-glance Table of Essentials for each daily itinerary, listing availability of bike shops, beach access, hiking trails, youth hostels, and activities while touring through California, Washington, and Oregon.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: Mountaineers Books; 4 edition (January 28, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0898869544

ISBN-13: 978-0898869545

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 73 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #219,523 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 inÂ Books > Sports & Outdoors > Individual Sports > Cycling > Excursion Guides #255 inÂ Books > Sports & Outdoors > Mountaineering > Mountain Climbing #534 inÂ Books > Travel > United States > West > Pacific

## **Customer Reviews**

A detailed book about the ride down the coastâ Directions to nearly every inch of the trip. (Idaho Falls Post Register)If you've ever dreamed of riding part or all of the Pacific Coast this is a great source of information. (The Cascadian)This spring, the fourth edition came out, and it's worthy of the new printing. The whole book is peppered with new information, from updated mileage logs to additional attractions. In addition to planning our rest stops and camping based on the book's

suggestions, we had the pleasure of experiencing several scenic detours we otherwise would have missed. (Albany Democrat-Herald) If you are thinking of taking a long cycling trip along the West Coast, you might consider picking up a copy of the fourth edition of *Bicycling the Pacific Coast* |Admittedly, you would have to be very brave to cycle through parts of the urban jungle along the way. The book warns you about what you are getting yourself into. But it also tempts you with tantalizing tidbits from what lies on the road ahead. (Hamilton (Ontario, Canada) Spectator) This is a book to inspire dreams of rolling adventure. (San Francisco Chronicle) The latest fourth edition may be the one that introduces a new generation to the joys (and pains) of long-distance cycling...[A] no-holds-barred look at doing the mighty coast highway on two wheels." (Oregonian) Whether you'd like to head out for a weekend tour or for weeks on end, this comprehensive guide will help you down the road. (Adventure Sports Journal)

The daughter of Washington state conservation icon Ira Spring, VICKY SPRING grew up on the trails of the Pacific Northwest. She is the author of numerous hiking and cycling guidebooks for the Western U.S. and Europe.

I found this book combined with ACA maps very helpful. When I first started it was helpful to get a feel for the different areas to better plan where I wanted to take rests days, and where I would need them. It hasn't been updated in a while so it's a wee bit off in some places, however, I like that it offers route variances, day trips, and potential pitfalls. It helped with pre-trip planning by breathing a bit of life into the trip by making it more dimensional and personal. As I completed a section I ceremoniously tore the section off and mailed it home to lighten the load and to have a sense of accomplishment.

As many have mentioned, the book is getting pretty long in the tooth. It is still very good for people planning a more barebones trip (hiker biker camps with showers). But the coast has developed quite a bit over the past 10+ years and opportunities for eating and commercial sleeping accommodations have greatly expanded in many places. I really like the narrative descriptions and have found the maps/routes to be good (I've ridden the entire coast once and repeated about half of it a second time over the years). While I have a really old dog eared copy of the hard copy (one of the first editions), I bought the most recent edition earlier this year on Kindle, as I've taken to touring with a 7 inch tablet (and a solar cell charger). I can have the book, tons of scanned maps to augment the book, as well as other books, etc. all in a relatively small compact package. But before I make my

next trip (Astoria to San Francisco in Summer 2016), I'll plan the route out using this book but then do a fair amount of googling and looking at alternatives in some specific areas.

Needs to be updated, printing is a bit old but I am finding it good reading as I prepare for my tour. I get lost sometimes while reading the milages and checking the map as many places and roads are mentioned but not shown on the map. Combined with my Adventure Cycling Maps and using an APP on my iPhone I should be able to find my way except for the larger cities, I've yet found anything good for them but I hate large cities anyway.

3 of my kids, ages 10 to 15, and I just used this guide book to plan a trip and ride from Salinas to Santa Barbara. I found it very helpful. It worked well in combination with Google Maps, a compass, and a GPS.I was fine using the online version on my Galaxy Note. It was nice to navigate paperless. Take a back up battery for the long days, and keep your electronics dry in Baggies.I highlighted the titles of the segments we were traveling so I could locate them more easily on the Kindle app. A table of contents with links to chapters and maps would be appreciated.I did see a fair number of people heading South to North. They seemed to be doing ok, despite the wind. I don't think I would have enjoyed that ride as much.We credit card traveled, and stayed in hotels and such with the help of Trip Advisor, Yelp, and the few commercial listings on Google Maps. Search all 3, because none of them are complete.I would recommend taking a sleeping bag and light tent from Monterey to about Cambria. The hotel and camp ground cabin operators in the Big Sur area knew they had us, and sometimes charged up to \$300 for fairly simple lodging. Once you hit Cambria the price of lodging drops again, and you can mail your camping gear home if you don't want to carry it any more.Take some nice rear lights to help drivers see you in the late afternoon fog along the coast. We had good front lights, but didn't ride after dark that much.We leap frogged over some stretches such as San Jose to Salinas and Santa Barbara to Anaheim using Amtrak trains and buses. It is a very helpful way to ride only the parts you want to, or to stay on schedule despite weather, illness, or injury. Research online so you know when you can ride aboard, and when you have to box your bike. Make reservations if you ride aboard, not so much for you as for your bike!The kids and I are now using the guide to plan a ride from Vancouver to Astoria in July. I appreciate the book detailing both the inland and peninsula routes, and detailing the advantages of each. We plan to take the inland route. We will camp at least part of the time this trip, and eat out of grocery stores more.I hope we have as much fun as we did last time. The ride down the central California coast with the kids, taking in Monterrey, Hearst Castle, the beaches and sea elephants, and wrapping up the trip

with Disneyland and boogie boarding in Newport, was a smashing success. Travel safe!

This book can be either very useful or almost worthless depending on your cycling goals. I rode down the entire Pacific Coast from the Canadian border to the Mexican border and carried this book along with me as I rode. Unfortunately, the book revolves around the planned itinerary for each day. Any deviance from this plan has little to no coverage in the book. As for the maps and route directions, they are super specific that if you don't want to get lost you must obey every turn suggestion in the book to reach your destination. I found normal state maps to be the best because I stuck to highways and heavily traversed roads. In fact the only time I got lost was on the first day when my state map didn't cover the city streets I needed to wind through. However the elevation profiles on each map is useful and gives and idea of what is up ahead. I did meet various individuals who were following the book word for word and they seemed to love following it. I suppose it all depends on what your plan is. I rode much more than what the book suggests for each day but I was still able to see all the things highlighted in the book. All that being said, I highly recommend buying the book even if you do not use it because it gives a great mentality to begin the ride with.

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