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Bonilla y Asociados

desde 1950





Título:

Autor: Precio: \$359.00

Editorial: Año: 2014

Tema: Edición: 1^a

Sinopsis ISBN: 9780816521302

Baja California is one of the Earth's last great wilderness areas that is easily accessible to travelers. Whether you enter from the United States to the north or from Cabo San Lucas to the south, it doesn't take long to find yourself passing through a unique desert ecosystem of islands and land bound by the Pacific Ocean on the west and the Gulf of California on the east. But where, you might ask, can you go to best experience the physical majesty of Baja California? This book holds the answer.

Off-Trail Adventures in Baja California describes_and maps and illustrates_nine hikes along outcrops on islands and peninsular shores where geography, geology, and ecology meet in singular ways. Each spot tells a story about the nature of the place_the cumulative effects of millions of years of natural forces at work. During the course of his long teaching career, Markes E. Johnson has hiked much of Baja California, often with students in tow. He brings a lifetime of study to his simple descriptions of the stories that are revealed by looking closely at natural phenomena framed by rocks and fossils.

This hiking guide offers a wealth of stories that seem to encompass everything, and can clearly communicate Johnson's deep understanding of how our planet's ecosystems function. Whether you like to hike with your boots on or from the comfort of your favorite chair, this book is a must-have for anyone who has visited or hopes to visit Baja California's Gulf Coast.

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