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National Parks: Our American Landscape



Synopsis

The National Parks: Our American Landscape is a timeless new look at the immensity, history, and powerful beauty of America's protected natural landscapes that remain a continued inspiration to generations of Americans. America's national parks and historical sites embody the American spirit. They are windows to our past, homes to some of our rarest plants and animal species, and places where every American can go to find inspiration, peace, and open space. From the iron rails of Steamtown, Pennsylvania to the wilds of Yellowstone, America's natural parks preserve our culture in as much as they shield our natural world from our own encroachment. The National Parks: Our American Landscape presents a wonderfully updated photographic survey of one of America's greatest national treasures. Seen through the eyes of the National Parks Conservation Association's photographer Ian Shive, America's National Park System come to life through a collection of more than 200 new photographs. Shive's stunning work demonstrates the diversity and awe inspiring beauty of the American wild lands covering the major United States parks from the warm waters of Biscayne, Florida to icy summit of Mt. McKinley in Denali National Park, Alaska.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Shive's work manages to capture the rare beauty and raw perfection of our National Parks. This wholly original look at our parks breathes much needed new life into the genre of landscape and outdoor photography. Even seasoned park visitors will find this new take on our national treasures

visually exhilarating. For anyone seeking a direct window into the very best of America, the wild, the whimsical, and the awe-inspiring, look no further than this book.

Ian Shive is one of the most talented landscape photographers out there. This book abounds with amazing imagery, capturing the national parks in a way I have never seen before. It is a terrific addition to any aspiring photographers collection, and a great coffee table book for the casual admirer. A must have for anyone with an interest in the national parks.

This is a stunning book, which I have gifted to four people so far -- my dad and three friends. All of them loved it. As a person who appreciates photography, I can only wonder how Ian Shive is able to capture such amazing images. We treasure our copy and have it on our table to share with friends who come to visit.

Let me just say that the book looks awesome. I opened it up and just took a glimpse. It smelled as if it was fresh off the press. I heard some cracking when the pages were turned as with any newly printed book. Then I realized the soft cover came off. Then realized that it was the actual cover with the spine exposed. This was within 2 hours of opening the book. It looks like the printing house used the cover that covers the hard edition and attempted to glue it to the pages. Poor performance on the printing house. I probably would keep it but I'm afraid that the book will self destruct. IAN SHIVE did a great job with this book up until choosing this publisher/printing house. Book-5 stars Book construction-0 stars

Easily one of the most beautiful things I own. Nearly impossible to put down, I find something new to appreciate and admire every time I open this book. Everyone who has visited a national park or has dreamed of visiting should own this unique and inspiring collection of photography.

Ian Shive brought the life and colors of the national parks to the pages of this book. His visions of the parks are not just beautiful but unimaginable. I was amazed by his technique and his patience for great photos. He combined the best of wilderness, wildlife, history and human footprint in this book. Some of these pictures, such as a coyote tracking its prey, morning dew on a spiderweb, rainbow over Denali, or a pink Death Valley landscape from sunset, are rarely things that you can plan on seeing when you visit the parks. It really requires endurance, will, and great attentions to detail to make it happen and Ian Shive has them all. The printing quality of the book is great as well.

Highly recommended!!

I'm not the kind of guy who would usually describe a book as "beautiful and breathtaking", but this one really is. The photography is just amazing. From the panoramic landscapes to the closeups, the images just make you feel like you're actually there. I'm a great fan of National Parks, and this book makes me wish to visit them more often. The book is neatly bound and the quality of the paper it is printed on makes the photos shine even more. The text very appropriately complements the photography. Just one minor criticism: Among my favorite parks, Zion is only photographed once, and there is not a single picture of Bryce Canyon. Well, maybe next time. Five stars anyway.

I bought this as a gift for our French friends. The first time I opened the book (softback) the spine broke off of the book. Arrrgh. I ended up pasting it back on, but this was not good. The construction is poor. Maybe the hardback book is better. Otherwise the book has beautiful pictures of our National Parks and is a great memory book to give as a gift.

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