

Discover the Best Easy Day Hikes in Des Moines!

Are you an outdoor enthusiast seeking adventure close to home? Look no further than Des Moines! This bustling city in Iowa offers a variety of easy day hikes that showcase the natural beauty and charm of the region. Whether you're a beginner hiker or an experienced explorer, Des Moines has something for everyone. In this article, we will guide you through some of the best easy day hikes in Des Moines, so put on your hiking boots and get ready to explore!

1. Gray's Lake Park Trail

Located in the heart of Des Moines, Gray's Lake Park is an urban oasis perfect for a relaxing hike. The 2-mile paved trail encircles the picturesque Gray's Lake and offers stunning views of the city skyline. With easy terrain and plenty of benches along the way, this trail is suitable for all skill levels. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of the lake, or simply enjoy a peaceful stroll surrounded by nature.

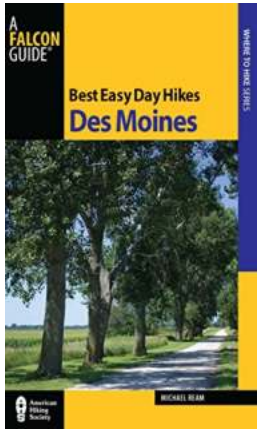
2. Highline Trail

For those who crave a longer hike with more challenging terrain, the Highline Trail is the perfect choice. This 7-mile loop trail takes you through dense forests, along scenic rivers, and offers breathtaking views from elevated viewpoints. The trail is well-marked and suitable for intermediate hikers. Prepare to be amazed by the natural beauty and wildlife encounters along this unforgettable journey.

Best Easy Day Hikes Des Moines (Best Easy Day Hikes Series) by Michael Ream (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

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3. Sycamore Trail

If you're looking for a trail with historical significance, the Sycamore Trail is a must-visit. Spanning 3 miles, this trail follows the former path of the Des Moines and Raccoon River Valley Railroad. Along the way, you'll discover remnants of the railroad, including a bridge and an old depot. Immerse yourself in the history of the region while enjoying a pleasant hike in a serene natural setting.

4. Browns Woods Trail

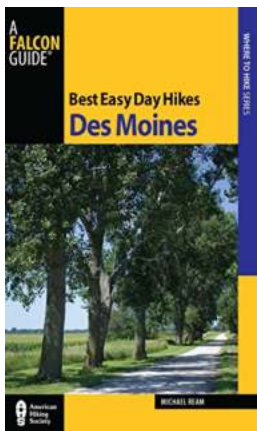
Nestled on the outskirts of Des Moines, Browns Woods Nature Preserve offers a peaceful escape from the city. The 2-mile loop trail through the preserve is perfect for all skill levels and showcases diverse flora and fauna. As you meander through the forest, keep an eye out for various bird species and native wildlife. This hidden gem provides a tranquil hiking experience for nature lovers.

5. Walnut Woods State Park Trail

Just a short drive from downtown Des Moines, Walnut Woods State Park offers a variety of outdoor activities, including hiking. The park's trail system consists of several interconnected loops that cater to different difficulty levels. Whether you

prefer a leisurely walk or a more challenging hike, Walnut Woods has the perfect trail for you. Explore dense woodlands, scenic overlooks, and serene picnic spots along the way.

These are just a few of the best easy day hikes you can experience in Des Moines. Lace up your hiking boots, grab some water and snacks, and embark on an adventure that will take you closer to nature. Embrace the beauty of Des Moines' landscapes and create unforgettable memories along the way. Happy hiking!



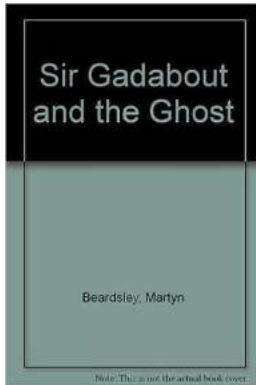
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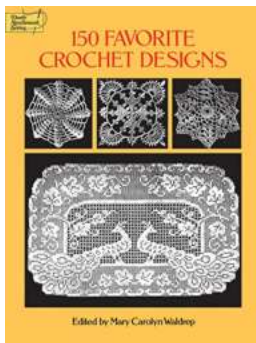


Best Easy Day Hikes Des Moines includes concise descriptions of the best short hikes in the area, with detailed maps of the routes. The 19 hikes in this guide are generally short, easy to follow, and guaranteed to please.



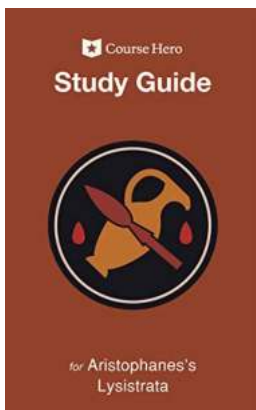
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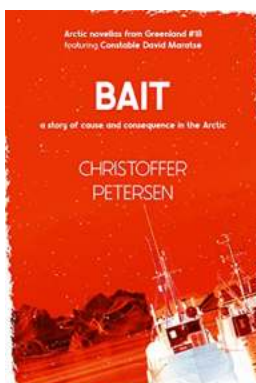
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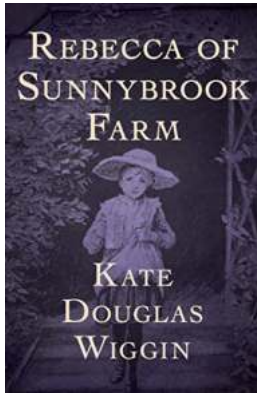
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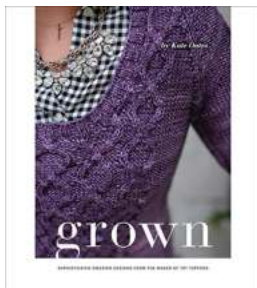
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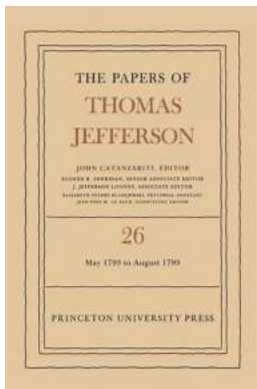
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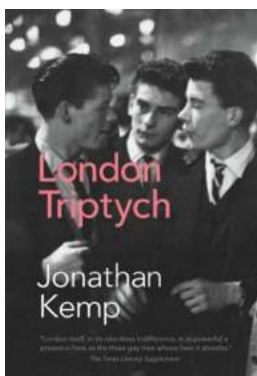
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