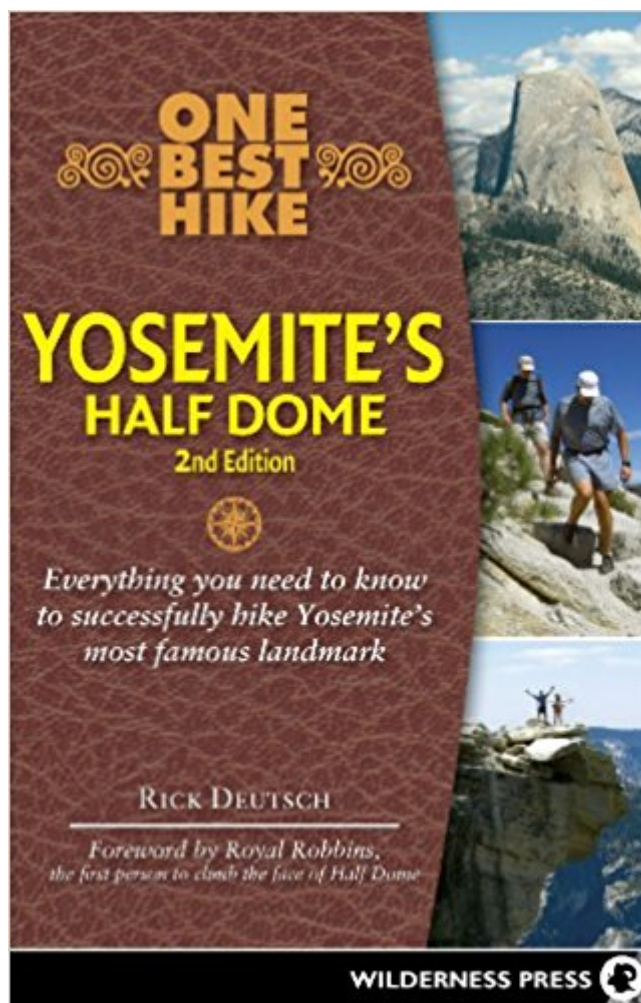


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# One Best Hike: Yosemite's Half Dome



## Synopsis

This is the only guide for hiking to the top of Half Dome - the signature landmark of Yosemite National Park, CA. It provides a history of the original Indian inhabitants of the area. The unique geological formations are explained. The focus of the book is to provide information on safe hiking practices to complete this extremely strenuous hike of 16-miles round trip that is climaxed by a harrowing 400 foot vertical ascent to the top of the 8,842 foot high granite monolith with the aid of a pair of steel cable banisters set at 45 degrees incline. Included is an extensive trail description with photos and narration of 16 points of interest. The author has completed this hike over 41 times and is a recognized expert source of information about the hike. This is not a topographic map intensive guide; rather it tells historical vignettes to interpret the hike so readers identify with events of the mid 1800's. He relates the story of the interaction of the Miwok and Mono Paiute Indians with the hordes of white invaders during California's Gold Rush. The reader is aware of how Yosemite developed after the white man's "discovery." The explanation of how odd geologic formations arose from ancient magma flows provides the reader with an understanding of what happened to the "missing part" of Half Dome. The full day hike up to the top of Half Dome is one of the most popular in the country. It is not easy. The book prepares the reader for the adventure with an extensive discussion of the equipment required, the training needed and a detailed "walk through" of the entire trail. Photographs and descriptions of salient features take the apprehension out of doing the hike. Sections with descriptions of 16-Points of Interest - waterfalls, historical areas, flora and fauna, drinking water sources and the actual cables provide readers with the "real deal" information to safely prepare for and complete this "bucket list" Adventure. Readers are given specific information on the gear needed. This includes a boots/foot care, use of hiking poles and a summary of water filter usage clothing selection and food suggestions.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"This guide covers everything you could possibly need or want to know about Half Dome and how to plan a successful hike." --Merced Sun-Star, May 2012  
"This book is worth purchasing and it's an easy read. Being prepared and knowing some history will make your hiking Half Dome all the more memorable." --SeeYosemite.com, April 2012

This is a bona-fide "Bucket List" item for all adventure-minded people. This will be one of the hardest things you ever do - It's a goal and a journey. Carpe Diem! Seize the Day.

Full of useful facts, a little history, and packing essentials for those taking on the Half Dome hike. The author, Rick Deutsch, has completed the Half Dome day hike dozens of times, and he shares his experience in this book for all. Great stuff like, where to stay, what to pack, what to expect - a basic how-to manual for Half Dome. Having visited Yosemite for the first time last year, I decided to put the Half Dome hike on my list.

I'm in decent shape, but am barely worthy of being called a novice hiker- Rick Deutsch's guide did a great job preparing me to hike Half Dome (just did it two days ago).Extremely helpful:- Take Deutsch's advice and do the Mist Trail up and John Muir down. We did and I'm so glad, considering the Mist Trail's steps are so slippery and steep.- The list of "points of interests" was extremely helpful for keeping track of where you were and how far you had to go. Providing the mileage and elevation was also nice.- Deutsch discusses everything you need to bring and be careful of- pay attention to the section on shoes!- Deutsch writes in encouraging, knowledgeable way that instills confidence in his reader.- The book is organized logically and provides many pictures.I would have liked to see a more detailed map with his points of interest labeled, but I understand you can only do so much in a small guide. I do think that Deutsch maybe downplays the cables a little- I'm not afraid of heights at all, but I found going down pretty frightening. I didn't use carabiners, which may have been nice, since it was my first time. Take some time to pump some iron before going- my arms and shoulders are extremely sore from supporting my weight going up and down.All in all, a really great,

invaluable guide that I recommend!

Great book with lots of important information to successfully complete the hike. Enjoyed the history on the park and especially Half Dome. Feel more confident and his book actually answered a huge unanswered question that I had - to do Half Dome in a day or do an overnight. Everything you need to know is in the book. The book is extremely informative and I plan on doing Half Dome this year! Thanks Rick!

Must read if you are planning to hike Half Dome. None of the other descriptions of this hike have the detail and the insight. Don't kid yourself - it is a difficult hike but well worth it. (I also recommend Rick's FB feed)

Great reference for those serious about hiking Half Dome. Made the hike much more bearable knowing what to expect and how to prepare accordingly! Of course the book alone is no substitute for the needed training.

Did this hike in 1961. Wish I'd had a guide like this to better prepare. A must read for anyone interested in the challenge. Thanks to Rick D. and ! Highly recommend.

Bought for my upcoming half-dome hike. Can't wait! I'll be on the lookout for Mr. Half-Dome himself, this June.

Have bought this over and over for friends that are going to hike Half Dome

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