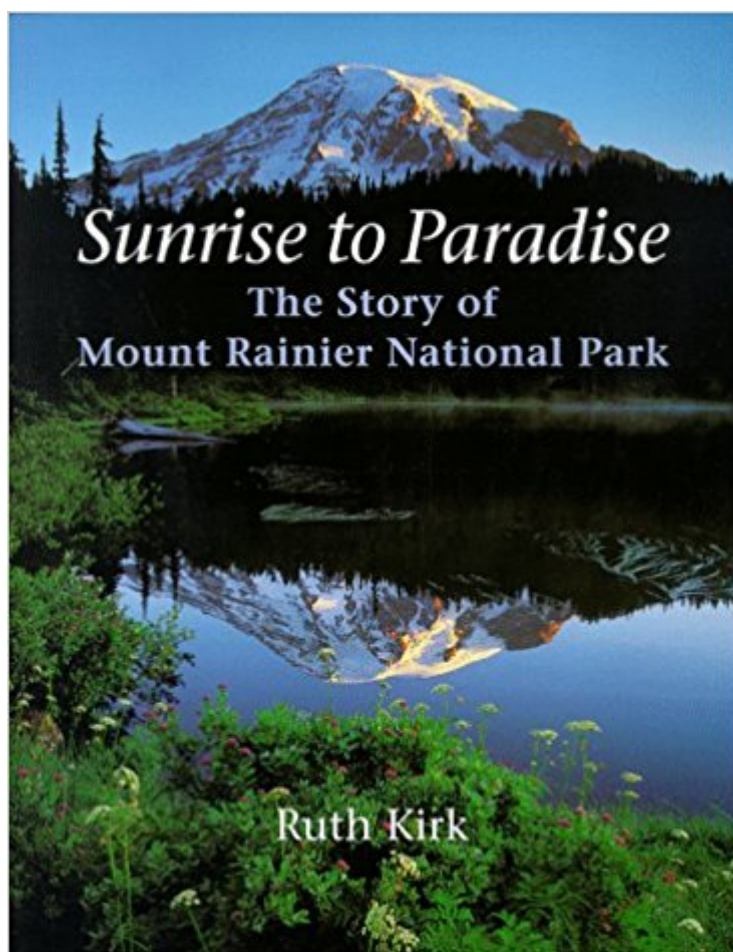


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Sunrise To Paradise: The Story Of Mount Rainier National Park



Synopsis

On clear days, the mammoth volcano Mount Rainier dominates the Seattle and Tacoma skylines and can be seen from Whidbey Island to Yakima and the central Washington wheat fields. The Mountain's out! is a cheerful local greeting, especially after a long spell of overcast weather. Sunrise to Paradise explores the rich history of this symbol of the Pacific Northwest and the national park that preserves it. Mount Rainier is the fifth highest peak in the United States outside Alaska, and it soars higher above its immediate base than does any other in the lower forty-eight. Sunrise to Paradise describes its geological and glacial origins and current ecological health, and the century-old stewardship of Mount Rainier National Park. Its stories include accounts by Native people such as Saluskin and Wapowety, climbers from John Muir and Fay Fuller to Willi Unsoeld and Lou Whittaker, and entrepreneurs from the Longmire family to Paul Sceva. Here, too, are the tales of scientists and tourists, park rangers and volunteers. Numerous illustrations span the decades. Some of the photographs were taken from albums of the 1912 and 1915 Mountaineers outings; others are by noted photographers of the past like Imogen Cunningham and Asahel Curtis and by contemporary photographers including Ira Spring. There are paintings by Abby Williams Hill and George Tsutakawa and a series specially created by Dee Molenaar.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This compendium makes a useful addition to the existing canon of personal accounts, age-yellowed histories, and helpful guidebooks to Washington State's Mount Rainier National Park. Kirk, who has written on both nature and history, lived in the park for five years, and has both climbed and circled

Rainier. The book ranges widely, if not too deeply, into just about everything to do with a remarkable natural landscape capped by the highest mountain--from its base--in the lower 48 states. Kirk ably considers all sides of the park: the local animals, the history and nature of volcanic activity, the politics of the name "Rainier," and the environmental changes wrought by a boom in the region's population. In the "Voices of the Mountain" sections of the book, first-person written and photographic accounts of Rainier experiences highlight human interaction with the mountain over the last century. Centenarian Floyd Schmoe writes about working in the park in the 1920s, and poet Denise Levertov, who never visited the mountain, writes of its effect on her each time she viewed its snowy peak from her home in Seattle: "always loftier, lonelier than I ever remember." Enlivened by photographs on each page, some from as early as the turn of the century, this book is a fascinating introduction to the mountain Native Americans called Tahoma. --Maria Dolan --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

With 200 square miles of forest, 34 of which remain snow-covered year round, plus 25 glaciers, Mount Rainier National Park in Washington State is impressive by any standard. What makes the park most remarkable is Mount Rainier itself. Almost mystical in its appeal, Mount Rainier has been compared to Japan's Mount Fuji. Natural science and Pacific Northwest history writer Kirk lived in the park for five years and has climbed Rainier five times. She provides dizzying coverage of everything from the geologic history of Rainier to tales of turn-of-the century climbing expeditions. However, Kirk's stated goal to write a "something-for-everybody book" has resulted in a little-information-about-a-lot-of-things pastiche: interesting but not completely satisfying. The 200 color photos are often exceptionally beautiful, and Kirk has provided an annotated bibliography. Recommended for larger public libraries, especially those in the West. A Janet N. Ross, Washoe Cty. Lib. Syst., Sparks, NV Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

A wonderful, modern, discussion of The Mountain. Enough natural history to keep scientific interest with Native American and European development history. A must have book for the Puget Sound Region Naturalist.

I enjoyed reading the history and stories of past adventurers on the mountain, The history of the mountain and how it was formed and how it has impacted it's environment is interesting, I was hoping for info on what to do and see on the mountain today and this does not have that. I need more info on what there is to do when I visit the mountain this summer.

This book shows the history of Mount Rainier National Park, from Sunset to Paradise. The photos are great and the paragraphs are informative and don't run on. The book also goes into the history of the 14,411 foot Stratovolcano, and how 5,600 years ago, the peak was at 16,500 feet, but a major eruption caused a massive collapse and created the peak we know, love and cherish today. The Sleeping Giant... The Mountain... Mount Rainier...

Years ago I hiked at Mt. Rainier, took pictures in its flower meadows, and slid in its summer snow. I thought someday I'd climb its glaciers to the summit, 14,410 feet. That never happened. But this book brings back all the old impressions and delights-and adds to them. Lots of photos (280!). Lot of information, most of it new to me. Richard P. Kratz, M.D. Clinical Professor, Ophthalmology Univ. California, Irvine

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