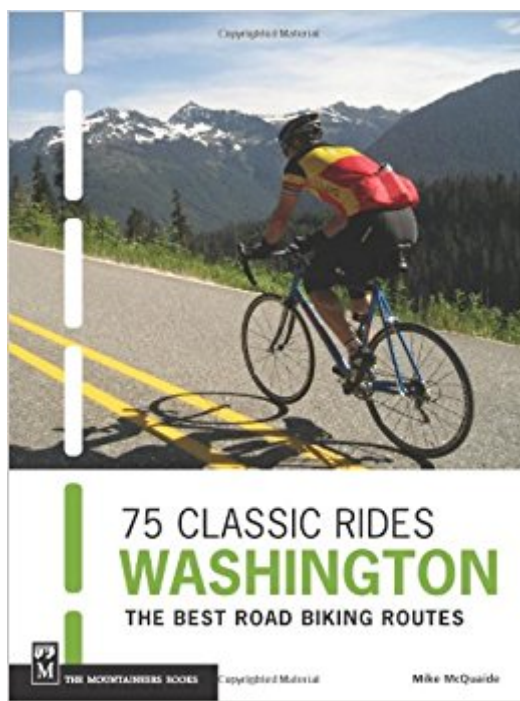


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# 75 Classic Rides Washington



## Synopsis

From a 50-mile route around Orcas Island or a family trip along Seattle's flat Burke-Gilman Trail, to a breathtaking climb up to Washington Pass from Winthrop-if you're seeking the best road biking The Evergreen State has to offer, you can bet your bottom bracket you'll find it in 75 CLASSIC RIDES WASHINGTON. 75 Classic Rides is a new Mountaineers Books series authored by passionate local cyclists who've put thousands of miles on their bikes to bring you the very best road cycling routes across their given state. The focus is on one-day rides (a mix of loops and one-way courses), but you'll also find suggestions for link-ups and some inspiring, longer routes for touring, including at least one cross-state route. Terrain varies from flat paved trails to epic mountain challenges. Each route description starts with the basic essentials to get you going: a brief overview, full-color map, elevation profile, difficulty level, round-trip distance, road conditions, and advice on the best season to ride. Full narrative descriptions tell what sights to expect, best towns for food or a cup of coffee, safety info on road shoulders and bike lanes, as well as turn-by-turn descriptions and mileage logs.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (10 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I own many bicycle guide books covering Washington state and several other US states and McQuaide's 75 Classic Rides in Washington is by far the best. It is chock full of detailed and accurate information and is a fun read. It's visually very appealing and the pages are easy to put on the scanner so you can make a copies to bring along on the ride. These 75 rides in this one book

will keep you very busy in Washington state and gives you a lot of bang for your buck. The maps are clear, informative and give you a very good understanding of where the ride goes and what's around you. The elevation profiles are very nice. Potential buyers of this book should know that most of the routes are for fit to very fit riders and many are perfect for cyclists that like to hit some serious hills. It really does cover most of the best climbing/descending routes in the state. Cue sheets for all rides are available for download from the Mountaineers website - How cool is that? I highly recommend this book.

I've had this book a few weeks now and have ridden all the rides in my area and am really looking forward to exploring other parts of Washington State. I have already planned camping trips to areas that I can ride new roads and routes I did not know about. Each ride has the basic stats about the ride, difficulty, expected time to allocate, distance and elevation gain in addition to the route map and mileage log. If you purchase the book you can download the cue sheets many cyclists are familiar with. But it is the description of the route, the road surfaces, the people, the area, history and sites to not miss along the route that Mike describes with such detail and humor that I really enjoy. I have even learned more about our great state of Washington. Mike also includes some alternatives or good turn around points to shorten and ease into some routes. I don't think I will be able to ride all 75 routes (2 multi-day cross state rides might be a bit much for me) but I truly hope to ride as many as I can.

This is a great reference of all types of rides around Washington, from hard to easy and long to short. Each ride includes maps, descriptions and often pictures. I've ridden a lot of Washington, and it has rides in it I never knew existed. Definitely a must-have if you ride road in Washington, or if you want to start. You'll also see some local riders you might recognize (or see out on the road) in the photos.

This is about as good as a book cycling guide can get, and vastly better than any Falconguide. It's pleasant to read, very clear, and a nice number of rides, many more than anyone is going to do unless you're a local. I wish he'd done the traditional listing thing: the ten best climbing routes, ten most scenic rides, etc. He's reluctant to rank, so if you're doing a bike trip where you're going to do ten rides you're left trying to read between the lines to divine which are the best ones. I also have a sense that, like all guide books, this one sticks to big roads and long rides--I have to believe there are lots of little back roads he isn't covering. Check out [bestrides.org](http://bestrides.org) for a better alternative, albeit

only for CA and OR.

Classic guide for beautiful and challenging cycling routes in the state of Washington. Photos, descriptions, maps and tip sheets are all excellent. And cycling is the way to really see your state. Love it.

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