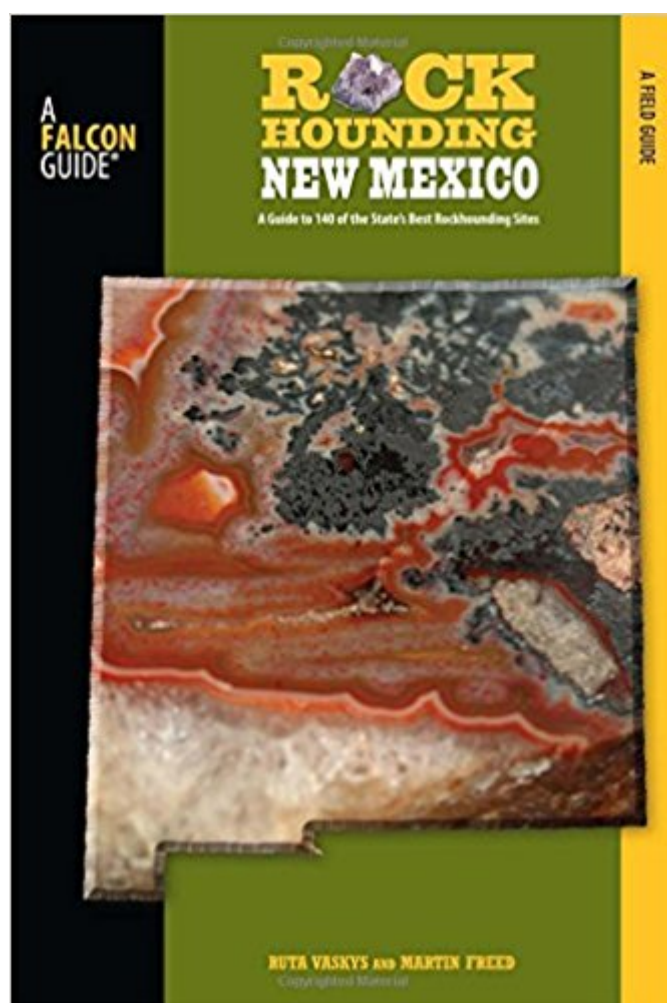


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# Rockhounding New Mexico: A Guide To 140 Of The State's Best Rockhounding Sites (Rockhounding Series)



## Synopsis

More than a third of New Mexico is public land that holds untold quantities of mineralogical treasure. With this book anyone can learn where to find unusual mineral displays, fossils, jasper, agate, petrified wood •not to mention more obsidian than one rockhound could possibly collect in a lifetime. The array and quality of such materials just waiting to be found in New Mexico are almost mind-boggling. Rockhounding New Mexico describes 140 of the state's best rockhound sites, covering popular and commercial sites as well as numerous little-known areas. This handy guide describes where and how to collect specimens, includes maps of each site as well as directions, and provides reliable recommendations for accommodations, camping, and other special attractions. It is, in short, a complete and outstanding introduction to the many sides of a fascinating hobby.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

It is nice to see an updated field guide to rock hounding locations here in New Mexico. There are some interesting and productive sites here. The text gives GPS coordinates for many sites which is useful. There are some maps in the book. Some cover one site and some cover multiple sites, if they are close by. It would be useful if a map was available for every site as some can be difficult to find and reading the "Finding the Site" text can be difficult, especially while in the field. There are a few very bland black and white photos. Come on this is 2009, not the 1940's, color photos and a lot more of them would be very useful to show site locations and some of the material found. How hard

is it to pop out the digital camera and shoot a few photos at each location. They did say they visited these sites ??Much of the text they just used the "Copy & Paste" feature in their word processor over and over. This is especially true of "Precautions & Restrictions" and the "Special Attractions" fields. This is really sad and gets really old very fast. You will have page after page giving you the same verbatim text. Two adjoining pages will have much of the same material just copied. The book would probably only be half its current pages if they eliminated the redundant text. They could have had room for much more useful descriptions of each site and photos if they stopped doing that. They could have used a symbol or icon system to warn about "Precautions & Restrictions" such as snakes or high heat. They could have just listed "Special Attractions" once for at the beginning of each related group of sites. So, this is a start, but it needs a lot of work. A serious formatting change is needed, more maps, more photos and color and stop doing that "copy" and "paste" stuff !! Come on folks, please revise and put out a new edition.

I bought this publication as a gift for some friends who were going to New Mexico on a trip. We were all disappointed the pictures were not in color, but other than that they just LOVED the book. They found it very useful for finding areas to look for rocks and found great specimens. When they got back they called and thanked me over and over for the book.

This is the summer that we are exploring. We have seen much of New Mexico and many of the typical touristy spots. Since we are not traveling far from home, this book will help us explore our area. There are maps, directions, listings of rocks you will find at a certain spot, suggestions of other rock hounding things in the surrounding areas (Museums etc). If the area is on private land and you can only collect on the roadways, this book will share that with you. If you need to contact someone in order to visit an area, this book will provide that information. If you need a four wheel vehicle or if any vehicle can make it- they tell you that too. The directions are clear. We were able to use the directions and the accompanying map to visit one spot near our home and pick up petrified wood. It was easy to follow the directions and it was easy to find the spot. I look forward to more successful rock hunting trips on day trips around our home. This is a great book if you are rock hounding in NM. I strongly suggest it.

Attempted to locate the sites on Hwy 15 in the National Forest NE of Silver City. The author needs to review his suggestions here. There was nothing at all to find. He mentioned a rest stop at one site, which to me means a wide spot with a toilet, didn't exist. There were, however, two very wide

spots in the road. The directions say to go down the hill in search of chalcedony roses - the 'hill' has at least a 60% downgrade, which isn't really safe to climb down for most people. We traveled clear to mile marker 30 before we found a dry riverbed that we picked over. Found interesting things there, but certainly nothing that was advertised in this area. This site did not match the author's description at all. Bummed.

This book is packed with information! Very comprehensive rockhunting guide. My only complaint is there are few illustrations. Perhaps in an effort to condense the information they opted to exclude the photos, but for me, I am not necessarily familiar with all the types of rocks/minerals listed in the areas and it helps me to see some examples of what I'll be looking for. So basically, if you already know what these types of rocks/minerals are and just need to know where to look for them (in New Mexico) then this is your book! FYI, I also have Rockhunting Arizona and Rockhunting California. Both of those books contained sufficient illustrations, but comparatively, Rockhunting New Mexico offers many, many more site listings and as I mentioned, this may be the reason they opted to exclude the photos. For the price, it's a good one for the collection of rockhunting guides.

Going to New Mexico in future. No colored pictures in book. Old ones of this type did have section of pictures so unhappy about that. Will have to look up colored pictures of rocks unfamiliar with before I go.

This book is just mediocre. Wish it was more in depth. The directions are fairly clear, but not as many sites located on the route we were on.

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