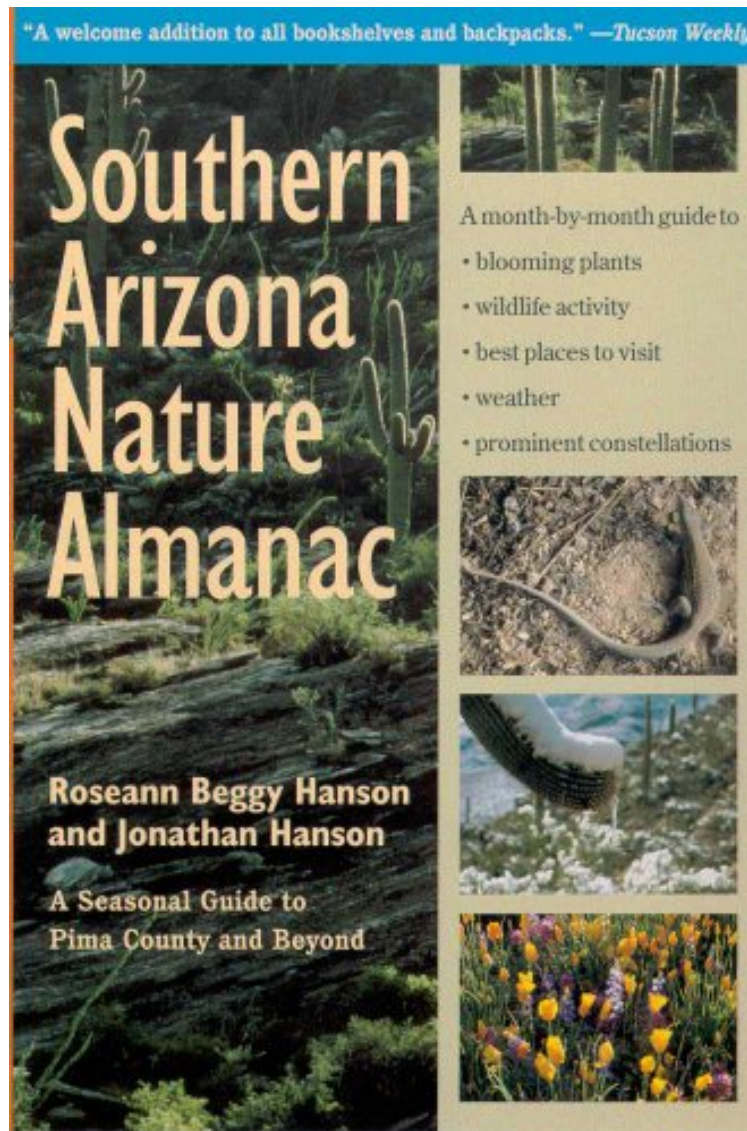


Southern Arizona Nature Almanac

Roseann Beggy Hanson, Jonathan Hanson
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Roseann Beggy Hanson, Jonathan Hanson : Southern Arizona Nature Almanac before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Southern Arizona Nature Almanac:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Lydia SpencerGreat buy. Thank you!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great giftBy JudyThis is such a great book for any one new to AZ. We use it often as a housewarming gift. Prompt shipment.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Personal Account of a Great CountyBy David B RichmanI spent five years in Pima County, while I attended the University of Arizona.

During that time I roamed over much of the area, as well as the surrounding counties, looking for beetles and arachnids, bird watching, and during one very productive spring, making a plant collection for a course in systematic botany. The huge county (9000 square miles - almost nine Rhode Islands!) varies from low desert at the start of the Camino del Diablo near Ajo to high mountain forests up to over 9,000 feet elevation in the Santa Catalina Mountains above Tucson and covered with Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, bigtooth and Rocky Mountain maples, and aspen. It does indeed deserve its own book. Roseann Beggy Hanson and Jonathan Hanson have published just such book and I hardily recommend their "Southern Arizona Nature Almanac" to anyone living in or visiting the area. The book cover all sorts of subjects, many not found in other books on the areas involved. My only gripe is their lack of coverage for the Arachnida, as they seem to barely mention scorpions and spiders (mostly as food for vertebrates), while discussing rattlesnakes, lighting safety, rabies in bats, Africanized bees, and other safety issues. As an arachnologist I'm a bit prejudiced, but I do think that visitors should be warned about avoiding scorpions, violin spiders and black widows! Still this is more a personalized almanac than exactly a guidebook. Fortunately there are several excellent volumes for the Sonoran Desert (which makes up much of the county) to consult. In any case the book has a large amount of information in it on the flora, fauna and night skies of locations, such as the Buenos Aires and Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuges, Baboquivari, the Rincon Mountains, the Quinlan Mountains, and Rose Canyon Lake, among others, with which I am very familiar. Such a book is to be read and savored as a taste of places and organisms that can be seen in this remarkable county. Buy this book to get the flavor of the area and pick up a few guides (such as the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum's "A Natural History of the Sonoran Desert") and you will be well served.

Southern Arizona is a not only a world-class travel destination, it's also a region with so many natural attractions that even its residents never run out of places to explore. The Southern Arizona Nature Almanac reveals the incredible diversity of the desert Southwest by highlighting its most compelling features and natural phenomena for each month of the year: blooming plants, wildlife activity, places to visit, weather, and prominent constellations. From migratory birds to snakes to insects, the almanac will show you what to expect in the sky or under your feet, no matter what season you venture out. In addition to original illustrations by Jonathan Hanson, the guide includes photos and weather charts. Handy appendixes include lists of birds, mammals, reptiles, butterflies, and a desert plants "blooming calendar." Accessible to the fledgling naturalist and detailed enough for the natural scientist, the Southern Arizona Nature Almanac is a definitive resource guide to the natural wonders of this fascinating land.

"A detailed, definitive guide to the natural phenomena of Southern Arizona . . . a valuable reference tool for both casual and detailed scientific inquiry." *Desert Leaf* "The Hansons analyze, categorize, and bring to life every month of the year." *Tucson Citizen* "An abundance of information in short and sprightly bites, adding up to a definitive guide. . . . In all, it's quite an impressive achievement and well worth the investment." *Santa Cruz Valley Sun* "A reference guide both scientifically accurate and immediately understandable to naturalists of all abilities. . . . Peppered with illustrated anecdotes of desert fauna, black-and-white photographs, personal reflections and helpful tables (from monthly weather reports to safety tips on lightning and Africanized bees), theirs is a welcome addition to all bookshelves and backpacks." *Tucson Weekly*