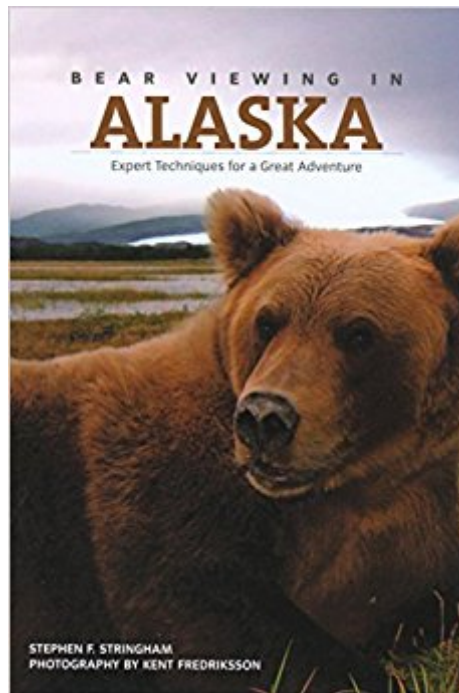




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Bear Viewing In Alaska: Expert Techniques For A Great Adventure



Synopsis

With almost 50,000 visitors traveling north every year to photograph and study bruins, bear viewing is perhaps Alaska's fastest growing tourist industry. *Bear Viewing in Alaska* is the only title specifically tailored to the unique needs of this demographic. With chapters devoted to the best places to view bears, what to expect once you get there, how to choose a viewing guide, and how to behave safely in bear country, this is an absolute must-have for any potential bear viewer. A selection of personal bear-encounter anecdotes enliven each chapter, entertaining even as they educate.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

What's the best way to see bears up close and in the wild? Where can you take the best photographs? How do you avoid making a bear nervous and defensive? Thousands of people travel to Alaska each year specifically to view wild bears—one of the fastest growing outdoor recreational activities in the world. Dr. Stephen F. Stringham, a naturalist, biologist, and professional viewing guide, tells you where to find the best viewing locations, when to make your trip, and what conditions to expect. How do you know when a bear is becoming agitated and aggressive? What questions should you ask when hiring a viewing guide? And perhaps most importantly, how can you avoid disturbing the animals you're viewing? Enlivened by personal stories and Kent Fredriksson's gorgeous photographs, this invaluable resource is for anyone interested in experiencing firsthand the majesty and grace of Alaska's wild bears.

Dr. Stephen F. Stringham is an adjunct professor at the University of Alaska. He is the author of *Beauty Within the Beast: Kinship With Bears in the Alaska Wilderness*.

This is a very well written book, but I had high expectations when I heard it was coming out. I envisioned a glossy but informative, "Frommer's" or "Eyewitness" type guide that had good maps and beautiful images for each viewing location, with very specific transportation, lodging, timing, tips, and suggestions. This book seems to be a high level guide mixing the current Bear Viewing industry and a how to act in bear country guide. The facts are presented in a general manner. For example, rather than saying "Use guides A or B" or plan to travel the second or third weeks of July, they have a list of questions to ask of your guide and suggest mid-summer visits during salmon runs. This is understandable, specific information would go out of date quickly and bears' habits are variable. So, the more vague information has a longer shelf life and is weather-proof. The information in the book is valuable, but the book does not contain all the answers you'll need to plan a trip. Location descriptions take up a third of the book, but they are short and again somewhat vague. Brooks River, which deserves pages, is given a paragraph of a hundred or so words. I was hoping for at least a map, description of camping availability, maybe a timing chart showing average peaks in bear presence and at least the iconic photo of a Brooks River bear catching the salmon mid-air. They spent 28 words describing the picture. I would have preferred a thousand words worth of photo. Where the book soars is when it discusses bear etiquette and ethics. The author is knowledgeable and prudent in his advice. His descriptions of bear behavior and ideal viewer behavior is what should be taken away from this book. Techniques is a strong word to use in the title, they're more like guidelines, but I think this is the meat of this book. Also, the book is filled with great photos, but again, I was hoping glossy national geographic type photos rather than black and white textbook images. I'm sure it was a cost saving compromise but they lost some of their power in the printing process. Sounds like I am slamming the book. I really can't, it's a good book. I was just hoping for something different. I guess my advice is to expect a fantastic general overview of the subject. What is there is great, what is missing are the specific details you need to start your trip planning.

The book is very specific, and does include a few tips for some of the lower 48 states as well.

Helpful and informative.

I bought this book for my son who is interested in taking a road trip to Alaska. We are both reading

the book and learning about bears in Alaska.

Dr. Stephen Stringham's BEAR VIEWING in ALASKA is an up-to-date reference guide for anyone interested in observing the magnificence and splendor of Alaska's wild bears. As a professional wildlife photographer I can say firsthand that Dr. Stringham's vast array of knowledge will surely enhance ones bear viewing adventure. The book is an indispensable manual for both the amateur viewer as well as the professional biologist, journalist or photographer. The exquisite images by Kent Fredriksson beautifully portray the bears in their natural habitat. Amy Shapira is the co-author and photographer of GROWING UP GRIZZLY the TRUE STORY of BAYLEE & HER CUBS...Growing Up Grizzly: The True Story of Baylee and Her Cubs (Falcon Guide)

This book gives a great overview of the surprisingly many ways there are to see bears in Alaska. Stringham gives loads of specific, practical advice. He also backs it up with the science he's learned and contributed to over the years so that you understand what you're seeing. And, he gives tips on how to be safe while you're seeing bears.

this book was very informative and was very easy to read and understand and covered all bases in the u.s. and alaska

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