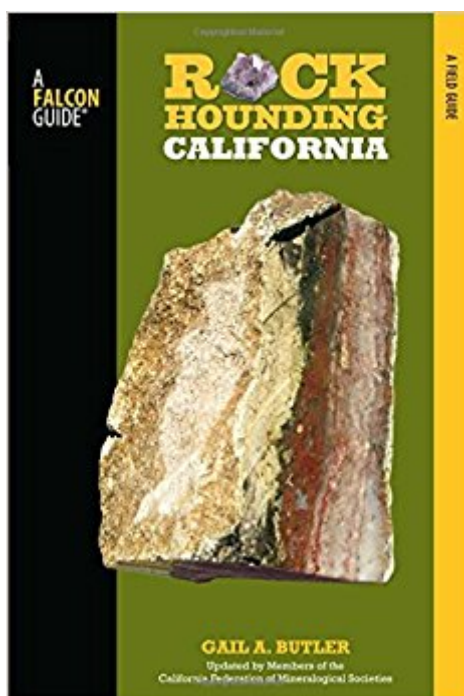


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# Rockhounding California: A Guide To The State's Best Rockhounding Sites (Rockhounding Series)



## Synopsis

Although known for its gold production, California is a virtual haven for rock and gem collectors. With this fully revised and updated edition, you can explore the mineral-rich desert regions, comb tide-washed beaches for jade, agate, abalone, fossilized whale bone, and prospect in the mountains and hills for gold, copper, and other minerals and gems. It describes 75 of the state's best rockhounding sites and covers popular and commercial sites as well as numerous little-known areas. This handy guide also describes how to collect specimens, includes maps, directions, and GPS coordinates for each site, and lists rockhound clubs around the state. Rockhounding California offers a complete introduction to this many-faceted hobby.

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## Customer Reviews

Although known for its gold production, California is a virtual haven for rock and gem collectors. With this informative guide, you can explore the mineral-rich desert regions, comb tide-washed beaches for jade, agate, abalone, fossilized whale bone, and prospect in the mountains and hills for gold, copper, and other minerals and gems. It describes 74 of the state's best rockhounding sites and covers popular and commercial sites as well as numerous little-known areas. This handy guide also describes how to collect specimens, includes maps and directions to each site, and lists rockhound clubs around the state. Rockhounding California offers a complete introduction to this many-faceted hobby and is an outstanding guide and sourcebook.

Gail Butler was a contributing editor to Rock and Gem magazine for more than 20 years and has written many articles on rockhounding, gold prospecting, lapidary, and other subjects for various publications. Now retired, she resides in Elsinore, Utah. The California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) was organized in 1936 to bring about a closer association of Clubs and Societies devoted to the study of Earth Sciences and the practice of Lapidary Arts and Crafts in the Western part of the United States. The CFMS includes approximately 137 clubs and societies mostly in California. There are a few clubs outside this area in Arizona and Nevada due to historical affiliation. The CFMS is a member of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS).<sup>1</sup> Learn more at [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org)

Since my first review up and vanished I'll give the short version. Get a different book. Older is better. It's my belief that the book has an underlying message and that is if you're not already connected to the state by some viable means as in living here or knowing other rock hounds here don't bother coming here. Seriously, the state has been plundered and beaten by unethical rock hounders greed and lack of respect. Gold mines and sledging rights are privately owned and unavailable to outsiders along the 49 Golden Chain Highway. I don't know about the rest of the state but I would venture to guess Southern and Northern California are the same. This book is the second edition published in 2012 from the first edition published in 1995 so the information is 22 years old with no updates. Look for another older book. My best advice is to find some older geology text books and go from there.

We LOVE books, we love 4 wheeling, and we love rocks...but for a book about rocks in California, it is rather thin in information. Apparently there are DOZENS of rocks in So Cal, but almost NO rocks in central Cal, and not that many in Nor Cal. We live in central/northern California and while we did go to two or three places in the book, we KNOW (firsthand) that there are more locations and stories than they covered. Most likely with a state the size of California, they could have easily done 3-4 books (one for each zone maybe), but instead we got a 'greatest hits' and not much depth or substance.

It's okay but not what I was looking for. I like color pictures and I want to know what kind of rock I was looking at. This isn't that. If you want to find the rocks they have they tell you where to find it.

fum but messy use outside the kids loved using it.

Great book!

This book is good if you want to get a general idea of where to go rock hounding, but it is not very specific to the dig sites. We did one hike, and completely missed the dig site. We ended up a bit further down the road, about 4 miles from where we were supposed to be but still had fun and found some good rocks. Not the ones we were after, but still had fun nonetheless.

I was hoping for more directions....

I'm a rockhound. This is a book on finding cool rocks in California - a match made in heaven. The only complaint is that it's a paperback without any colored pictures of rocks or crystals. I have yet to visit any sites in the book, but the directions and instructions seem pretty clear. I'm looking forward to some great field trips looking for rocks!

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