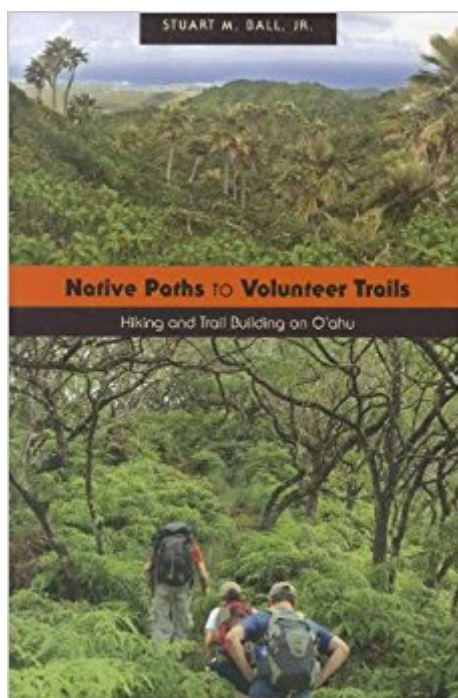


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Native Paths To Volunteer Trails: Hiking And Trail Building On Oahu (A Latitude 20 Book)



Synopsis

Oʻahu has a varied, extensive, and distinctive network of mountain hiking trails. Stuart M. Ball, Jr., author of *The Hikers Guide to Oʻahu*, explores the history behind many of the island's trails, beginning with early Hawaiians who blazed routes for traveling, plant and wood gathering, and bird catching. Sugar plantations constructed paths to access ditches that tapped stream water for thirsty cane. The U.S. Army built trails for training and island defense, while those developed by the Territorial Forestry Division and the Civilian Conservation Corps were mainly for reforestation and wild pig control. Most recently, volunteers and hiking clubs have created additional routes solely for recreation. The result of all this varied activity is a large network of just over a 100 mountain trails, a precious resource on a small, populous island. The book compiles the history of 50 of those trails. Most of them still exist, and many are open to the public. The trails are arranged by the group or organization that built them, moving from Hawaiian trails before 1800 to volunteer trails of the 1990s. Each chapter contains an overview that describes the background and purpose of the trail building during the period covered. The trail histories are self-contained, recording the major events from construction through 2010. *Native Paths to Volunteer Trails* will allow fans of Oʻahu's hiking trails and Hawai'i history buffs to trek into the past and learn about some of their favorite routes and research future ones.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Stuart M. Ball, Jr. has been hiking in Hawaii for more than twenty years. He is a hike leader for the Hawaiian Trail and Mountain Club and the author of two bestselling guides, The Hikers Guide to Oahu and The Backpackers Guide to Hawaii. Retired from the Bank of Hawaii, he holds a B.A. from Dartmouth College and an M.B.A. from Stanford University.

Stuart Ball is a legend. His knowledge about the old trails of O'ahu is unquestionable and this is an amazing resource for those interested in learning the fascinating history of how our unique trails and trail systems were developed. I've used this book many times for research when I tackle some abandoned trail that is no longer hiked very often. A must have for the serious hiker.

This is a great book for any hiker who loves the trails on Oahu. It is historic, informative and well written. It makes me wish I would have started hiking when I was in my 20's. I'm 63 and somewhat limited to the length of a hike and elevation gain that works for my body. I LOVE reading stories of others adventures - a lot of interesting facts and tidbits of information that you wouldn't find in one place.

If you hike on O'ahu you will love Stuart Ball's detailed, historical write ups. This is an excellent companion to his Hikers Guide to O'ahu.

If you want to find out more about the history of many of the trails on Oahu, you'll enjoy this book.

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