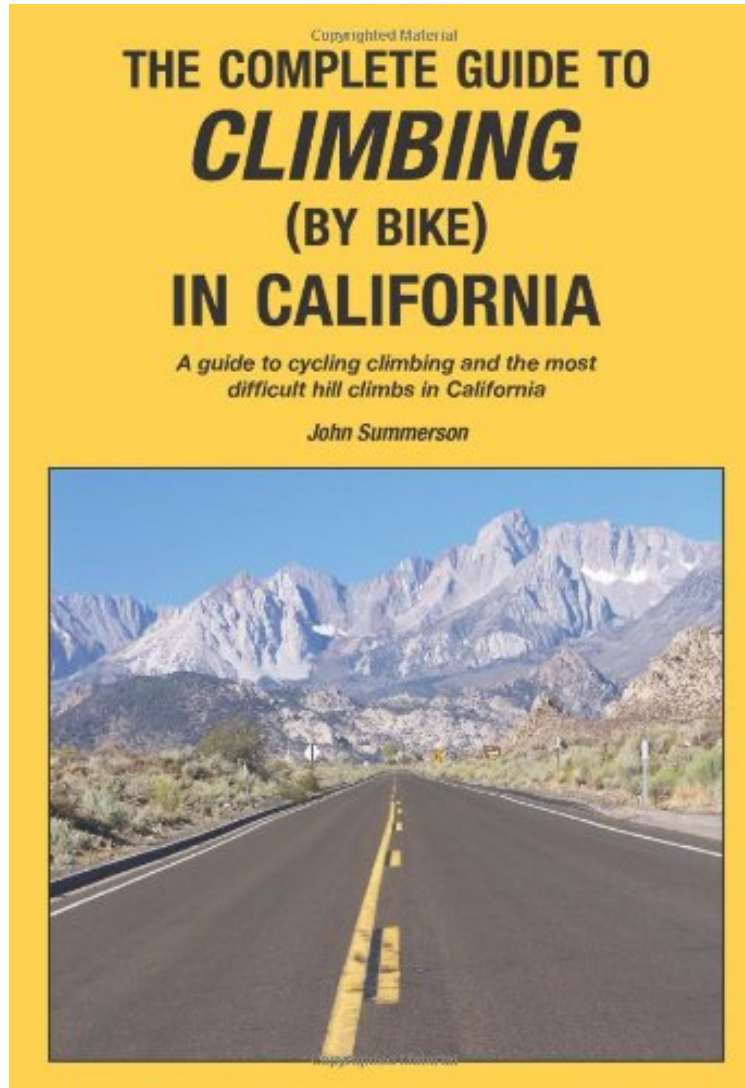


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## The Complete Guide to Climbing (By Bike) in California

*John Summerson*

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**John Summerson : The Complete Guide to Climbing (By Bike) in California** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Complete Guide to Climbing (By Bike) in California:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Better in some ways, worse in othersBy Alec SharpI love Summerson's books because they are the only easy way to discover the best climbs in the country, and to get me motivated to travel and ride. I have the first edition and second edition. My trivial complaint is that climbs in the first book that I've done that were top 100 are no longer top 100 - darn. More seriously, one reason the second edition is bigger is that the print is bigger. There are many pages of what I consider fluff - we go from page 16 to 66 without any information about the climbs. Pages 275 to 349 contain innumerable statistics on the climbs, information of little

interest to me. What IS of interest is where the rides are, and the maps in the first edition are completely gone from the second edition. I want to know where the climbs are and how to get to them, and the first editions maps were very useful. I had hoped that a second edition would improve on the maps by adding other less detailed maps showing context - where the climbs are relative to major roads. Information that would be useful to non-locals. Instead, the maps have been removed in the second edition! So for the time being, I'll be using both editions of the book. I'm giving 3 stars to register my complaints about lack of maps, large print, and fluff, although since there is no competition for this book the star rating is almost meaningless. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great info - wretched organization  
By T. Allen  
This book contains loads of useful information about its topic - but the organization is awful. For example: you must refer to three different locations in the book in order to a) find the climb's number in the table of contents b) locate the climb on the map pages - found on pages 48-51 and c) read the climb info - which is NOT referenced by, and in fact does not even contain, the number obtained from the table of contents. This results in a lot of flipping back and forth, and searching through the book to track down basic info about a given climb. After all that you may want to refer to ANOTHER section of the book to get additional data...The data is all there, it's just difficult to get at. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ... as presents to my husband and friends who all enjoy biking up hills  
By Kauigave  
this as presents to my husband and friends who all enjoy biking up hills. All men absolutely LOVED the book; highly recommend for hilly cyclist enthusiasts.

Avid cyclists know that hill climbing is the crux of the sport. Getting up cycling's brutal slopes is often what separates average from elite riders. However, accurate information on this cycling sub-specialty has been lacking, particularly the location and profiling of the best road bike climbs. This situation has now been rectified as this guidebook provides California cycling peak-baggers with everything they need to know; from how best to prepare to get to the top of the mountain to the most difficult ascents. Within the multiple mountain ranges of the Golden State the top climbs are all included in these pages and within separate sections for Northern, Central and Southern California as well as the Bay Area.