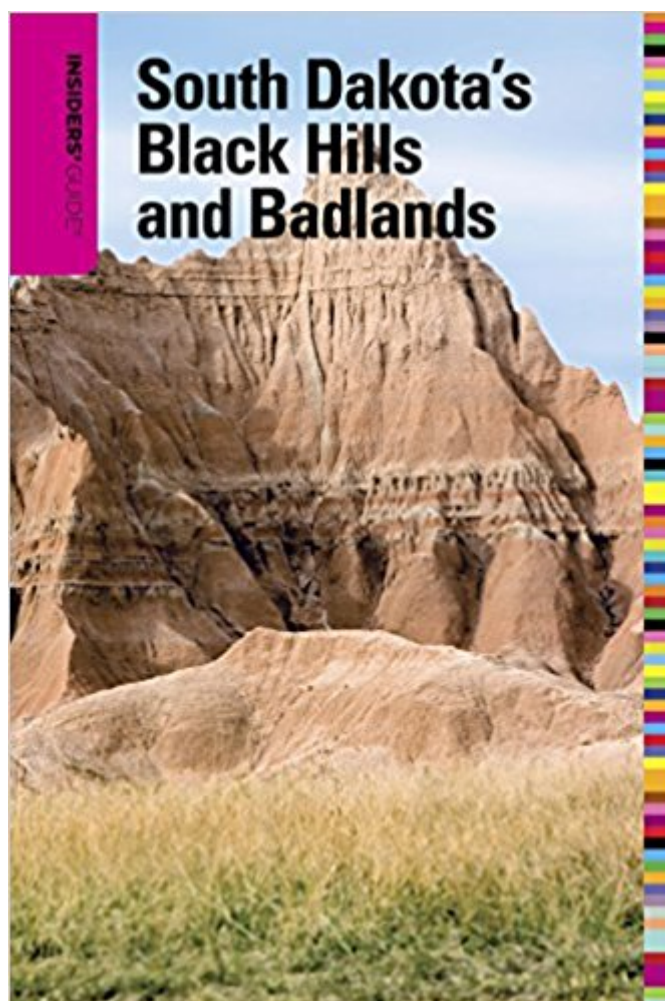


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# Insiders' Guide To South Dakota's Black Hills And Badlands, 5th (Insiders' Guide Series)



## Synopsis

Twenty years of essential, in-depth travel and relocation information written by locals. Insiders' Guides are packed with information about places to stay, where to eat, the best shopping districts, fun things to do with the kids, recreation, day trips, education and childcare, relocation tips, retirement information and local history.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

T. D. Griffith has traveled to 40 countries and has contributed to more than two dozen travel guides. He is the author of five books and has written articles for numerous newspapers and magazines. He and his wife live in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

I have found this travel guide to be absolutely useless because of the content organization. Rather than having chapters focus on a particular area or city in the Black Hills, each chapter topic, ie Accomodations, Attractions, Shopping etc, includes information for the entire region. Thus if one wishes to read about a specific city, for example, Deadwood, one must sort through every chapter in the book to get a complete picture of what is available. I purchased this book several years ago when we made our first trip to the Black Hills, but we did not use it. I should have tossed it out. This spring we are returning for another visit, so I pulled the book out, forgetting that it hadn't worked as a guide for us. After again trying to use the book for travel research I put it aside. Perhaps this guidebook organization will work for some, but I found it cumbersome and confusing.

We purchased this guide for our vacation travel in South Dakota. It provided helpful information on sites and attractions. However, the organization was not so helpful to me, with chapters organized by parks, family, etc. It was hard to find the highlights and really important things. The chapters on relocation, education, child care, health care, retirement and media were not helpful at all for me as a vacation traveler. I probably will not buy an "Insider's Guide" again, and instead will stick with Fodors, Moon, or another guide.

We're going on vacation to the black hills this year and find this book very valuable in helping to find some of the out of the way sites that we enjoy.

This book is even more than I expected - really great. Came promptly, in perfect condition. Very satisfied!

This book is awesome for trip-planning. I unfortunately paid cover price at a local brick-n-mortar bookstore, but I wanted to see all the brands of travel guides in person to pick one. The others available definitely lacked compared to this one - and for the same price. I'll know from now on I can always trust this series. The front has some basic maps to get you started, and the first few chapters are history and "the natural world" of the region. The following chapters split information into common-sense sections, such as "accommodations", "restaurants", "attractions", etc. Even "nightlife" (for the young couple) and "kidstuff" (for family vacations) and even a chapter listing annual festivals by the month they typically take place in! Each detailed entry includes the name, address, phone number, web address, approx price, and operation hours of the business/location. Much of the info is contributed by locals so you really get a feel for the place. Even better, in each chapter the info is split into regions. In this case, "northern hills", "central hills" and "southern hills" which I really like. I discovered most of what we want to do is in the central and southern hills, so I looked under "accommodations" at cabins to rent only in those regions. The best part of all are all kinds of 'did you know' entries with historical information about various places to see. Everything from how the cave system was formed (and how they keep them clean!), to American Indian war history, to 19th century natural disasters, to the infamous Wall Drug and Sturgis motorcycle rally. I plan to read some of this aloud to the kids before we get to each location, so we can enjoy the sights without having to read all the history pamphlets. Also included are things to do around the region, including eastern WY, central SD, northern NE. There are also chapters on relocation,

education, child care, health care, retirement, and media, but I haven't touched those since we are obviously planning a vacation.

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