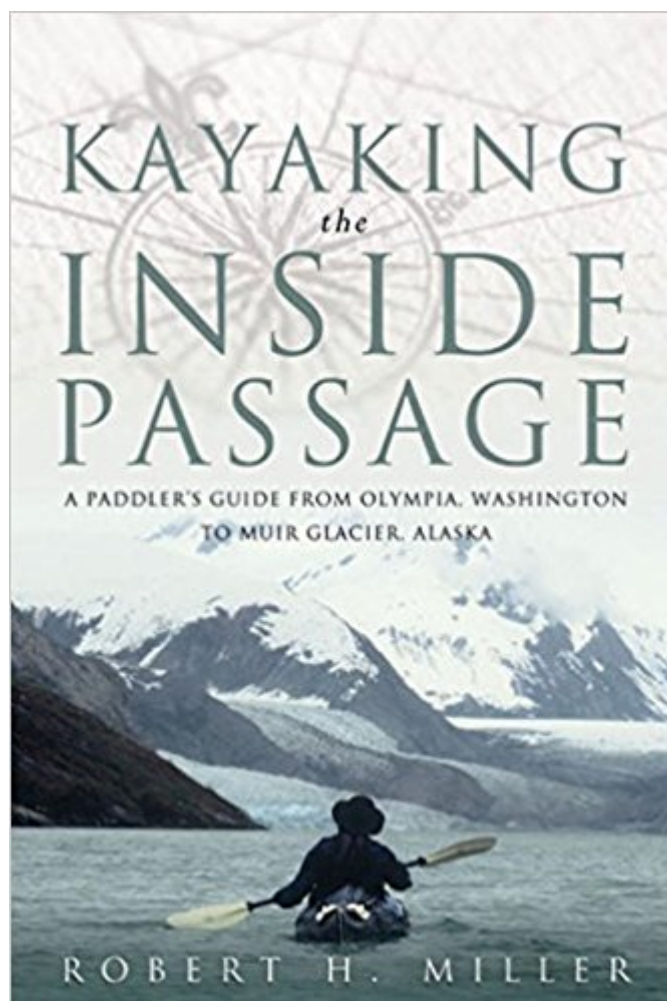


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# Kayaking The Inside Passage: A Paddling Guide From Olympia, Washington To Muir Glacier, Alaska



## Synopsis

The Inside Passage is something of a holy grail for contemporary sea kayakers. It is without question the most scenic and challenging paddling trip in North America. Kayaking the Inside Passage will aid kayakers both in planning and in carrying out paddling trips on the rugged Pacific artery that runs along the western edge of North America. It is a complete through-trip guide to sea kayaking the entire 1,300-mile length of the Inside Passage along one select route with some alternate variations. This route runs from Olympia, Washington, past Vancouver Island and up through Glacier Bay National Park in Alaska. No other paddling guide covers the entire length of the Inside Passage. There are 33 maps, 50 photos, and pen-and-ink illustrations. Miller includes complete historical and natural background along with proficiency and equipment recommendations. 50 black & white photographs, 33 maps, index.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Robert H. Miller grew up in Cuba. He has taught climbing and kayaking for 35 years and has published articles and photos in Rock & Ice, Canoe, River Runner, and other publications. He now lives in Prescott, Arizona.

Alaskans have a term for folks who show up, do a one week backpack trip someplace, then promptly label themselves as authorities on all things Alaska. And that term is "One Week Wonder". In general, I expect a paddler's guide to contain plenty of information on paddling the region it is

intended to cover, written by someone who has spent an extensive amount of time on every segment of the trip. Reading through this book, I find that, of the four-hundred and some odd pages contained herein, fewer than 10% of those pages are actually "guide" information, with actual descriptions of the territory you'll be paddling. . The vast majority of the book is stuffed with "witty anecdotes", Miller's interpretation of historical events, Heloise's beginner helpful hints about subjects that anyone even remotely thinking about doing this trip should have mastered a decade before they consider this trip, etc. I suspect that all this voluminous gobbledegook is in the book because Mr Miller only paddled the route once, lost notes along the way, had very little first hand information about the route itself, but had spent hundreds of hours reading history books and other people's "witty anecdotes" about the region. So he felt compelled to write a book to cover his trip costs. Now, it's commendable to write a "paddler's historical guide to witty anecdotes" to a region, but if you intend to write an actual GUIDEBOOK, then, for pete's sake, son; fill it up chock full of information on the landings, the beaches, the secret flat bivy spots on otherwise inhospitable stretches of shoreline, the best creeks for drinking, where the good berry patches are, etc etc etc. The kind of information you'd get from going on the trip with some old salt who'd paddled the route ten or twenty times. But the author admittedly lost all his notes on camp site information, so even that scant would be "guide" information that he put in the book is suspect. I'm currently distilling his entire guidebook into 3 pages of 7 point font notes, to be printed out on waterproof paper. Because that's about all the critical information it has in it, and I sure as HECK am not gonna carry around an extra pound of witty anecdotes about lighthouse history on my actual kayak trip up the I.P. So, I say plaintively, Children: when you set out to write a paddler's guidebook to an area, please spend more than a fleeting amount of time ACTUALLY PADDLING there. Not to do so opens one up to criticism. You may even be confused for an overly erudite guidebook author from a well known outdoor school in the desert southwest.

Was looking for a guidebook. This provides more background information than specifics for trip planning

A wonderful combination of how-to and travelogue? Sign me up. Miller's guide is excellent preparatory reading for any water trip up the inside passage.

DETAILED AND GOOD FOR THE PERSON MAKING THE TRIP. LESS GOOD FOR THE ARMCHAIR KAYAKER

Miller does more than Inside Passage log, he takes through the rigors of doing it right and preparing you the long journey.

Straight to the point. Well written and very informative. One of the tools we are using to plan our rowing trip to Ketchikan, June 2015

Even though paddling the Inside Passage is not on my list to do, I enjoyed the commentary on the scenery, people, history etc. Well written travel guide....Dave

This comprehensive book is routinely recommended for a reason. Plus it should motivate anyone who has not made the final decision to kayak the IP. Get it and go.

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