

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Foreword..... | 1 |
| Why Am I Visiting All the Southern Parks? | 5 |
| 1. The Great Outdoors: The Mountains | 11 |
| Great Smoky Mountains National Park: | |
| Returning to wildness on Hazel Creek..... | 13 |
| Appalachian National Scenic Trail: Maintaining a section of the A.T. | 18 |
| Appalachian National Scenic Trail: | |
| Ridgerunning on the Appalachian Trail..... | 22 |
| Blue Ridge Parkway: Building a trail at 6,000 feet | 27 |
| Little River Canyon National Preserve: Up and down to the river..... | 33 |
| Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area: | |
| Exploring the Cumberland Plateau..... | 36 |
| Obed Wild and Scenic River: Keeping it wild..... | 40 |
| Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area: Atlanta's playground ... | 42 |
| Mammoth Cave National Park: Working a crowd | 43 |
| 2. Interpretation, Not Just Information | 47 |
| Learning to Interact with Visitors..... | 48 |
| Gee Interprets a Settler in the Smokies..... | 53 |
| 3. Prehistoric America | 59 |
| Russell Cave National Monument: Protecting an old civilization..... | 60 |
| Poverty Point National Monument: For extra credit..... | 62 |
| Ocmulgee National Monument: Mysterious Indian mounds..... | 64 |
| 4. The Europeans Are Coming | 69 |
| Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve: | |
| Columbus's men landed..... | 70 |
| San Juan National Historic Site: A place of war | 73 |
| De Soto National Memorial: Pillaging the South | 76 |
| Castillo de San Marcos National Monument and | |
| Fort Matanzas National Monument: Protecting St. Augustine..... | 79 |
| Fort Raleigh National Historic Site: The Lost Colony..... | 83 |
| Fort Frederica National Monument: Oglethorpe ruled here | 86 |
| Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve: | |
| The French try to move in..... | 89 |
| Virgin Islands National Park with Virgin Islands Coral Reef National | |
| Monument: Tropical America | 93 |
| Christiansted National Historic Site: Fascinating and underappreciated..... | 97 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| 5. Revolutionary War in the South | 103 |
| Ninety Six National Historic Site: Trading post and battle site..... | 105 |
| Moore's Creek National Battlefield: A three-minute battle..... | 107 |
| Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site: Worst Patriot defeat | 110 |
| Kings Mountain National Military Park with the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail: Where the New World begins..... | 113 |
| Cowpens National Battlefield: Fighting the British Army..... | 118 |
| Guilford Courthouse National Military Park: Victory or defeat? | 121 |
| 6. Young America | 127 |
| Charles Pinckney National Historic Site: A life of privilege..... | 128 |
| Cumberland Island National Seashore: Summer home of the rich..... | 131 |
| Cumberland Gap National Historical Park: Walking into Kentucky..... | 137 |
| Cane River Creole National Historical Park: Plantation life | 142 |
| Natchez National Historical Park: Two different lives in the same city. | 144 |
| 7. The War of 1812: Land of the Free and Home of the Brave | 149 |
| Horseshoe Bend National Military Park: Searching for Junaluska | 151 |
| Natchez Trace Parkway and Natchez Trace National Scenic Trail: A walking corridor | 154 |
| Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve: Named after a pirate . | 158 |
| Trail of Tears National Historic Trail: The Cherokee survive..... | 163 |
| 8. Coastal Defense: A Late Reaction to the War of 1812 | 167 |
| Fort Sumter National Monument: Where the Civil War began..... | 169 |
| Fort Pulaski National Monument: End of an era..... | 171 |
| Fort Pickens in Gulf Islands National Seashore: Oasis in a sea of development..... | 174 |
| Fort Jefferson in Dry Tortugas National Park: Dr. Mudd was here..... | 177 |
| 9. The Civil War | 183 |
| Underground Railroad Network: Searching for safe haven | 185 |
| Fort Donelson National Battlefield: First significant Union victory..... | 188 |
| Shiloh National Military Park: Bloody Shiloh..... | 191 |
| Stones River National Battlefield: First Civil War memorial..... | 193 |
| Vicksburg National Military Park: Art park..... | 194 |
| Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park: One of many Lincoln sites..... | 199 |
| Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park: First military park | 201 |
| Andersonville National Historic Site: The saddest place in the South... | 204 |
| Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park: | |

| | |
|--|------------|
| On Sherman's march to Atlanta | 210 |
| Brices Cross Roads National Battlefield Site and Tupelo National Battlefield: One-acre parks..... | 212 |
| Andrew Johnson National Historic Site: More than his impeachment | 214 |
| 10. Twentieth-Century Developments..... | 219 |
| Wright Brothers National Memorial: First in flight..... | 220 |
| New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park: Birthplace of American music..... | 223 |
| Cape Lookout National Seashore: Walking to an abandoned village.. | 226 |
| Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site: Poet of the people..... | 229 |
| Jimmy Carter National Historic Site: Back in Plains..... | 233 |
| 11. Fighting for Equality..... | 239 |
| Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site: Booker T. Washington's school..... | 240 |
| Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site: Training Red Tails..... | 242 |
| Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail: Marching for voting rights..... | 244 |
| Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site: A leader and dreamer | 248 |
| 12. The Great Outdoors: The Lowlands..... | 253 |
| Cape Hatteras National Seashore: Climbing Bodie Island Lighthouse | 254 |
| Congaree National Park: Floodplains and cypress knees | 257 |
| Canaveral National Seashore: Thank you, NASA | 262 |
| Biscayne National Park: An underwater oasis south of Miami..... | 265 |
| Everglades National Park: Saving a river of grass | 266 |
| Big Cypress National Preserve: Alligators and wildlife artist..... | 271 |
| Buck Island Reef National Monument: It's five o'clock somewhere..... | 275 |
| Epilogue | 279 |
| What People Want to Know About National Parks | 283 |
| Helping Out the Parks: More Than Writing Letters..... | 287 |
| Thank You, Readers | 290 |
| Bibliography..... | 291 |
| National Parks by State | 294 |
| Acknowledgments..... | 297 |
| About The Author | 299 |