



Geologic Tours in the Las Vegas Area (Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology Special Publication)

Joseph V. Tingley, Becky Weimer Purkey, Ernest M. Duebendorfer

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Las Vegas is surrounded by some of the most spectacular geology in the American Southwest. Looking outward from the glittering city center, one can see evidence of nearly two billion years of the Earth's history expressed in the rugged mountains that border Las Vegas Valley. Thick sections of limestone, sandstone, and shale, similar to rocks of the Grand Canyon, can be found. There are remnants of volcanoes and the volcanic rocks that erupted from them. Deposits of young sedimentary rocks fill basins formed by faulting in the last few million years. Erosion of these geologic features by wind and water in this desert climate has resulted in the amazing landforms that can be seen today. Each of the five geologic tours in this guidebook takes the traveler to a different area of special geologic interest within a short driving distance of Las Vegas. Travelers can visit one of three national recreation areas, two Nevada state parks, and even a national wildlife refuge protecting Desert Bighorn Sheep. These tours provide options for side trips, hiking, camping, wildlife viewing, and even fishing and boating at Lake Mead. Joseph V. Tingley has updated the original tour book with route maps, sketches, diagrams, photographs, and information on points of historical interest along the trip routes, making this new guide a must-have for all Southern Nevada adventurers.



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