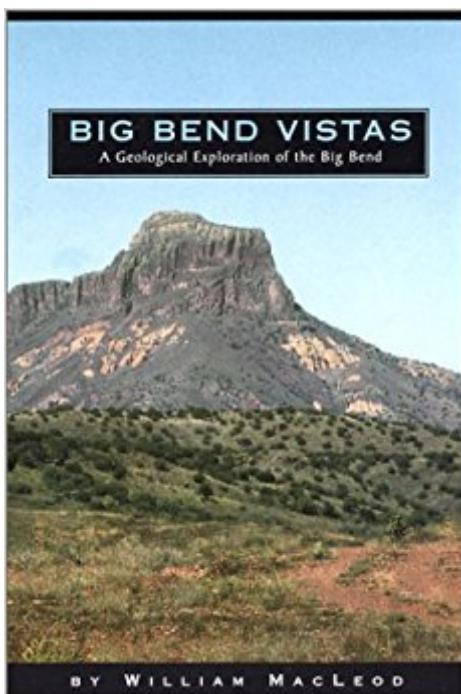


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# Big Bend Vistas: A Geological Exploration Of The Big Bend



## **Synopsis**

Big Bend Vistas takes you along the highways and park roads of the Big Bend, describing and explaining the geology and landscapes as you go. The book is divided into three sections, around Marathon, down by the Rio Grande, and north from Study Butte to Fort Stockton. Each section begins with a brief history of the geology of the area and then describes the scenery along the roads. The book includes 75 color photographs and 120 maps and drawings.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 255 pages

Publisher: Texas Geological Press (November 21, 2003)

ISBN-10: 0972778500

ISBN-13: 978-0972778503

Package Dimensions: 8.9 x 5.9 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #648,693 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 in Books > Travel > United States > Texas > Big Bend #222 in Books > Travel > United States > South > West South Central #570 in Books > Travel > Food, Lodging & Transportation > Parks & Campgrounds

## **Customer Reviews**

The author studied geology at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland and worked as a mining geologist in Africa before coming to Texas 25 years ago. He has been a resident of Alpine for the past 5 years.

This book is an absolute must for anyone that want to understand the strange and varied geology that amazes them when they visit the park. It is, in fact, essentially the only book that truly covers the Big Bend National Park geology in depth. (For reference, I am someone that follows a lot of science, but I am not a Geologist). I purchased my first copy at the BBNP but they no longer stock it at the park; and, their "replacements" do not even come close to matching the quality of this book. For me this book is so significant that this is my second purchase of this book due to my mistake of loaning my original copy to someone who "lost" it. Currently this book is sadly out of print but there are a number of used copies available; and, even a couple of new copies as well at last check through

Without geology experience this book needs to be given time to allow understanding of the geology. The definitions in the back are key to help understand the terms used. Some of it is coming to grips with the scales involved. 6,000 ft of volcanic tuff fell in some areas... Hard to comprehend. The book gives wonderful insight into the geology of the area. Best geology book of the area I have seen yet.

My boyfriend took his first trip to West Texas the summer after he got his drivers license when he was 16; he took me on my first trip to the region the summer of 2012. The beauty of this place and of the animals that inhabit it keep us coming back, once or twice every summer if possible! South of Alpine he loves to point out and name every formation on the horizon all the way down to Terlingua. I bought him this book for Christmas 2013 and he was thrilled! This book is full of accurate and interesting tidbits about the area, and it keeps our daydreams of West Texas just an arms length away all through the cold winter months. Great read, beautiful pictures, very informative.

A must have book for our area.

Finally a book that is an easy read and answers questions about the area of Texas known as the Big Bend. This book takes you several steps beyond the Roadside Geology of Texas book. The book has excellent maps, is well organized, and has many photographs to help you get your orientation. I also recommend a companion book that he has written about the Davis Mountains area.

I love this book! In Chapter I, Setting the Scene, MacLeod provides a concise geologic history, explaining difficult concepts in language easily accessible to the layman. The following chapters interpret the landscapes along various local routes. The maps, photos and sketches nicely complement the text. I like to read the appropriate chapter the night before a road trip and then take the book along in the car. It certainly adds interest to the trip.

Use Big Bend Vistas to get an overview of the region or just to look up that mountain that catches your eye. Easy to read descriptions of the geology with lots of pictures, illustrations and a glossary to help the average person understand and appreciate the landscape yet detailed enough for the more geologically astute. Vistas makes the trip to Big Bend National Park more fun!

This a first rate book on the geology of the Big Bend area of Texas. Outstanding photographs and

easy to read. If this book doesn't make you want to visit the Big Bend, nothing will. Alas, Bill died in 2010, so there will be no more books from him. Buy up all his books while they are available. You won't be disappointed.

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