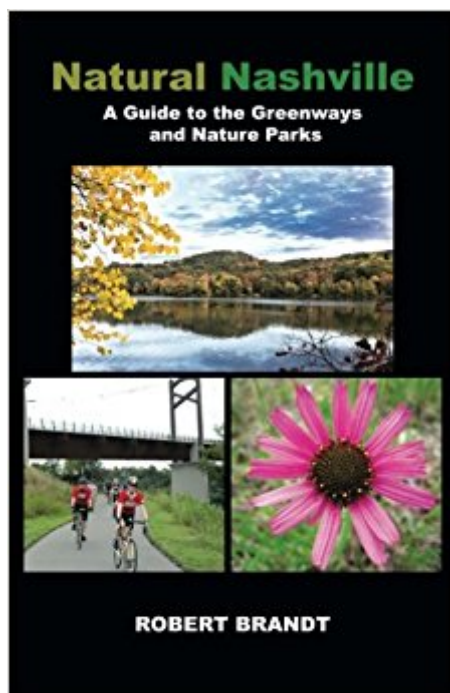


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# Natural Nashville: A Guide To The Greenways And Nature Parks



## Synopsis

Beneath the veneer of "Music City, USA" and "The Athens of the South" that each year draws more than 10 million visitors, there is a stunningly beautiful natural landscape enjoyed by locals and outsiders alike. Nashville's 533 square miles include such varied areas as steep forested ridges, deep rich woods, soggy river bottoms, grassy meadows, and rocky mini-deserts. Much of this heterogeneous landscape is preserved in an ever-expanding award-winning network of greenways and parks. Natural Nashville explores them all. Whether you like to walk, run, hike, bicycle, canoe, bird watch, or just enjoy quiet time outdoors, this guide tells you where to go and what you will find when you get there. More than 25 greenways and parks; Detailed descriptions; Activities; Nashville's natural landscape A complete guide to more than 25 greenways and nature parks. Detailed descriptions, activities, nature information.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Robert Brandt's books on outdoors and travel include *Touring the Middle Tennessee Backroads*, *Middle Tennessee on Foot*, and *Compass American Guide - Tennessee*. He is active in Nashville's greenways program and The Land Trust for Tennessee.

As a guide to the ecology, geology, and wildlife of the Nashville area, this book is excellent. Brandt discusses the three diverse geographic regions of Nashville and the effect of the Cumberland River on the life around it in clear, concise, and informative prose. I feel like I understand Davidson

County's environment significantly more than after reading "Natural Nashville." Brandt also gives interesting history of the conservation efforts that have resulted in a great park and greenway system, along with the metropolitan government's plans to ambitiously extend preserved spaces. "Natural Nashville" as a trail guide was significantly weaker, with no trail maps, only sparse descriptions of the trails, no instructions on reaching trailheads, and frequently not even mileages or names of the paths. It's more of a "where to go" guide than a trail guide. Also included in the book are some guest essays and poems. I found those to be generally hokey; I don't need any inspiration to get outside and appreciate the beauty of Middle Tennessee!

If you're an outdoors person and you live in middle Tennessee, you really need to become acquainted with Robert Brandt's work. Between this and "Middle Tennessee On Foot", you'll be exploring your state with enthusiasm and more than a little background knowledge. Brandt obviously writes from years of experience and miles and miles of trail pounding. What's more, he's just plain fun to read. Highly recommended.

Natural Nashville is a comprehensive guide to Nashville's extensive greenways system and nature parks. The writing is clear; the information is well organized for an overall review or a quick reference to a specific area. The book includes the history of the sites, and facts about local flora and fauna. The essays by local hikers are inspiring. The book would be useful to both locals who want to learn more about their city, and to visitors who set out on foot to enjoy the Nashville scenery. The paperback is lightweight and will fit easily into your pack as you set off on a scenic walk. Donna N.

This book is an easy to follow guide to parks and greenways in Nashville. It should be helpful for both visitors and residents who want to explore the outdoors. One great feature is that it covers areas under both local and state jurisdictions as well as those managed by the Corps of Engineers and the National Park Service. While it tells you what hiking, bicycle or horse trails are situated at each location, it is not a detailed trail guide. It does, however, list websites where you can get more detailed and updated information.

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