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Great Day Trips to Discover the Geology of Connecticut

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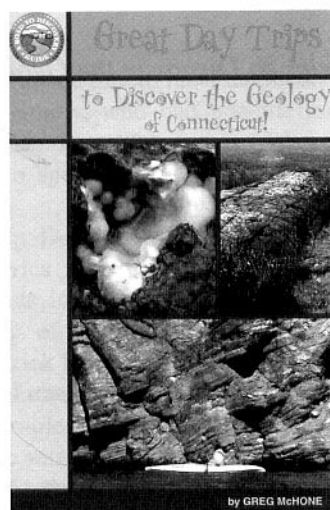
Connecticut, shaped by various activities including continental drift, volcanism, and several periods of glaciation, has a long and interesting geological history. *Day Trips* by Greg McHone, a geologist at Trinity College, discusses Connecticut's geological history.

Day Trips is one of *The Road to Discovery Series* guidebooks. Promotional material accompanying the book indicates that the series of guidebooks "to Connecticut's most remarkable natural places and the stories that go with them, makes it easy for everyone from families to weekend adventurers to discover the state's rich past."

Day Trips is exactly what Connecticut's teachers and students of geology (and amateurs) need. *Day Trips* sets the stage by beginning (Chapter 2) with an excellent but brief history of the study of geology and the contributions to the science by James Hutton, but it quickly focuses on the study of the geology of Connecticut by Benjamin Silliman, Edward Hitchcock, John Rodgers and others.

In Chapter 3 the author gives an overview of the geology of the earth in general and Connecticut in particular. There is a discussion of continental drift, plate tectonics, and the various terranes, rocks, and geological features of Connecticut.

In Chapter 4 there is an in depth discussion of Connecticut's metamorphic terranes followed by descriptions of several trips one can make to see some of Connecticut's metamorphic terranes. Each trip includes complete directions, what you will see when you arrive, and topics for discussion.



The Hartford Basin and the Newark Terrane, Connecticut in the Ice Age, and Connecticut's coastal features are discussed in Chapters 5, 6, and 7, respectively. The features of the Newark Terrane are described as are the various geological features of glaciation and the effects of the ocean. Again, the chapters end with a series of wonderful field trips.

Chapter 8, Connecticut Minerals, describes some of the minerals such as garnet, beryl, tourmaline found in our state. Similar to chapters 4 through 7, the chapter ends with many field trips.

Great Day Trips to Discover the Geology of Connecticut is a wonderful and long-needed book that teachers, students, and amateur geologists will find valuable. The book is well referenced and includes a list of museums and rock and mineral clubs. It is available from <http://www.Cttrips.com> and from select museum stores.