

Reprinted from Tailwinds, July/August 2007

Tucson Bicycle Guide is More Than Maps and Descriptions **By Mark Flint**

As bicyclists well know, there is no better way to get to know an area than to see it from the seat of a bicycle.

But because humans are creatures of habit, we tend to adopt a handful of routes and stick to them, limiting the potential of our exploration.

For Tucson residents and visitors author Jerry Rosen has made it not only easy, but also very tempting to get out of that riding rut. Rosen's self-published book, "*Desert Journeys: A Guide for the Tucson Road Cyclist*," is more than a compendium of ride directions. Much more.

Rosen's photos, which range from exceptional to stunning, give the book coffee table cachet.

Each of the 32 rides listed includes a general description, ride directions and topographic profiles. The rides can be combined and, of course, modified to include neighborhood tours. In addition to ride information, "*Desert Journeys*" tells you where to find bike shops and locally-owned coffee purveyors. For beginners, Rosen has tips on riding safely and what to carry. The book also includes a list of cycling resources, both local and internet. Physicist and cyclist, Eddie Muka, combines a bit of mathematics and philosophy in an essay on hill climbing.

Whether you are a visitor looking for a place to ride or a long time rider who could use a little variety - and who couldn't? - this book would make a nice addition to your library.

For more information and to order a copy, go online to JRPhoto.org.

