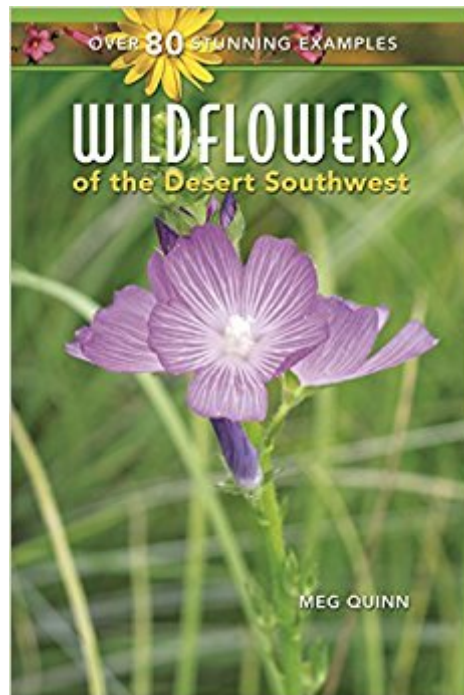




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# Wildflowers Of The Desert Southwest



## Synopsis

Spring is a very special time in the desert Southwest. An astonishing variety of wildflowers, nurtured by the winter rains, can bloom in wondrous profusion and carpet the desert floor and mountainsides with glorious color. Indeed, thousands of visitors time their trips to the Southwest to coincide with wildflower season. In *Wildflowers of the Desert Southwest*, botanist and educator Meg Quinn identifies and describes more than eighty of the most common and showy species. Flowers are further arranged by color for ease of identification.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Meg Quinn also authored *Wildflowers of the Mountain Southwest* and *Cacti of the Desert Southwest* for Rio Nuevo Publishers. She is the former director of education at Tucson Botanical Gardens, has worked for the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, and is active in the Arizona Native Plant Society.

I guess I was expecting more species but I've found that flowers in my desert area are missing from a lot of references.

I was able to attend a lecture by Meg Quinn, and signed up for another. This guide was written for my area. I wish she had included a few extra small pictures of seed pods and/or seeds.

I like this book, but I wish it included more wildflowers. It is a limited resource.

Thank you.

If you "blink" you might miss them. Not literally, of course, for each year some desert wildflowers bloom, particular in the shady areas of arroyos. Every few years or so, conditions in the desert become more optimal, better amounts of moisture coupled with the right temperatures and sunlight, and then suddenly the proverbial "carpets" of desert flowers erupt. Either way, the flowers of the desert can attract, and even seduce. Meg Quinn has written a solid guide about the flowers along the way on your desert hikes. The book contains a good map outlining the extent of the four principal deserts of the American Southwest: Chihuahuan, the Great Basin, Sonoran, and Mojave. She admits that her selection of flowers is weight more towards the latter two. Eighty-four desert flowers are identified: one to each page, with a quality picture sufficient for identification purposes. The common name of the flower heads each page, followed by its scientific (Latin) name, along with the flower's "family." This is followed by a brief (3-5 sentence) description of its habitat and characteristics. The flower's range and elevation are highlighted. At the end, there is a brief glossary and bibliography. Favorites? The Desert Paintbrush, and the Sacred Datura. Certainly they are easy to identify! Overall, a solid, useful guidebook, for anyone living in the Southwest, or passing through. 4-stars.

A great introduction to the common wildflowers of the Sonoran, Chihuahuan, and Mojave deserts of the southwestern United States. This little book has great photographs and simple clear concise descriptions of each species. There are even some very interesting ethnobotanical tidbits for many of the species, which I found fascinating. Each flower is conveniently grouped by color, which contributes to its ease of use in the field. I highly recommend it to anyone visiting our southwestern deserts in the springtime!

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