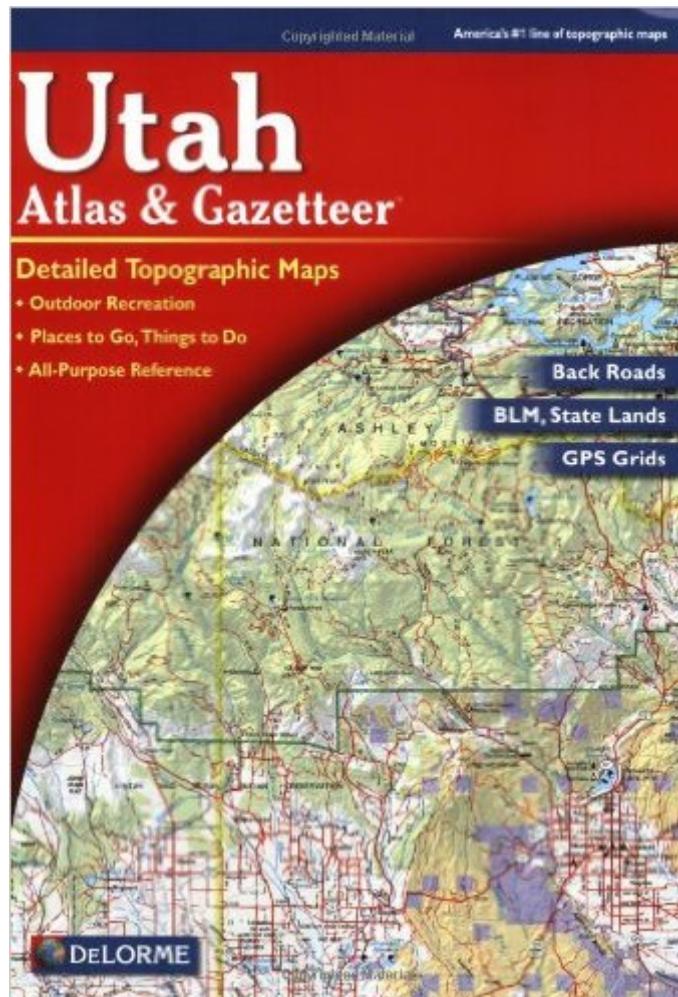


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Utah Atlas & Gazetteer (6th Edition)



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Synopsis

Wouldn't it be nice to always have exactly the right kind of map, whatever your needs may be? You will, with the uniquely versatile DeLorme Atlas & Gazetteer Series. These topographic atlases cover individual states with the most comprehensive detail available, including back roads, backwater lakes and streams, boat ramps, forests, wetlands, trailheads, campgrounds, public lands, prime hunting and fishing spots, and countless landmarks and points of interest. You'll also find a wealth of information on everything from family outings to wilderness adventures. The Atlas & Gazetteer is ideal for outdoor recreation, business travel, home or office reference, and countless other uses.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have been a huge fan of DeLorme State Atlas and Gazetteer books for 20+ years. I will never plan a trip without one. I find them absolutely indispensable and have them with me on any car trip, period. I do however have a preference for the older style of mapping used on the earlier editions. I used to own an old Utah Atlas and Gazetteer and much preferred it to the new one. The enhanced topo information and colorations are neat but the actual road mappings have a new style that are annoying to me. It is much harder with longer dashed lines for unimproved roads to determine whether the road intersects another one. Anyone who does backroading in Utah knows that when a road is near another on the map does not mean they intersect. One road could be 1000 feet below another and both will dead-end. It is not fun to plan a trip not being sure whether your road goes through. Although I still like the maps, I feel the need to have another topo source for backroads. I

wish DeLorme would update their Atlas and Gazeteers in the old format rather than the 'slick' newer style.

I recently went to buy several new Delorme Atlases (for a few different states) because my old ones are getting a bit long in the tooth. Well, I left the store without them. I'm glad I didn't order them here because they would have been sent right back. The newest versions are simply zoomed-in highway/road maps. I can get the same info at the gas station for a dollar and have 70 less pages of nothing to carry around. There are no elevation contours, half the details are gone, and the format is generally 'dumbed down.' These maps used to show all sorts of interesting things for those who ventured off the main roads. The new ones show major roads, pretty colors, and generally which Interstate takes you to the national forests. If you're cruising the Interstates and are looking for the triple latte of highway maps, you're set. Otherwise... worthless. Sorry, but Delorme REALLY blew it. They need to rehire the cartographers and fire the graphic artists.

I have several of these of Arizona, Utah and New Mexico. Duplicates of each... one in the house for planning and study, one in the truck. Occasionally I rotate them so they don't wear out too quickly. I gave Delorme top billing in my Desert Emergency Survival Basics book, but you don't need a desert and you don't need an emergency to need a delorme atlas. Any rural area in the United States is probably covered by them. If you spend a lot of time in the back country these maps are the best alternative, from my point of view. It's true the maps don't have labels on the back country cow trails another reviewer complained of. The fact is, neither do the roads. But it's often helpful when you come to the fork in a dirt two-track and they both wander off a few degrees off North, to be able to crack open the Delorme and discover the one on the left plays out just over that hill over there at a windmill. There's no excuse for needing labels these days. A compass and Delorme will allow you to locate yourself in most instances. However, even the back woods purist ought to own a GPS. I've been wandering around the back woods longer than most readers of this have been alive. I rarely get lost, but I frequently don't know exactly where I am. Occasionally my old TrailBlazer saved me a lot of walking to get back to the truck. Once it saved my life in a snowstorm, I imagine. For motor traveling you'll cover too much ground to allow the 7.5 minute maps to help much. You pass from one map to the next too quickly. When you are afoot a couple of them become useful. Meanwhile, I use Delorme as one of the ways to keep track of my wanderings. I recommend them wherever you are. And a GPS, as well.

Scale on the Utah map is too large to be useful. A lot of the back roads in my area are not on the map due to the fact that the scale is too large to fit them all on the page. Note that there are only 48 map pages compared to 91 in the Colorado book. Yes, Colorado is 23% larger than Utah but...

Delorme was the Atlas of choice backcountry drivers but no more. For just a couple of dollars more you can get a far superior atlas from Benchmark. Benchmark gives you much, much better visuals, a set of state, regional and Western United States maps, separate sets of recreation and public lands maps, listings of National Parks, Wilderness Areas, etc. plus some city maps..Delorme sat on its hands while Benchmark produced a much, much better Atlas.

The scale of this Utah DeLorme atlas is too large and the maps in it are unsuitable for detailed recreation planning (in my case mountain biking). The scale is 1:233,000! You have to squint to see certain important Forest Service roads at this scale, and fine details are imperceptible. DeLorme needs to lower the scale by a factor of at least three. These comments refer to the Sixth Edition (2008). DeLorme revises these maps periodically so if you're reading this review years later check to see if they've fixed the problem before deciding not to buy it. For now, the question is, Where can one buy a suitable atlas for offroad trip planning? Once I've figured out where to go I can buy an excellent National Geographic Trails Illustrated or Latitude 40 map. But I need an atlas for identifying promising areas. And this one won't do the job.

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