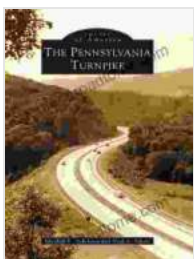


The Pennsylvania Turnpike (Images Of America)

The Pennsylvania Turnpike: An American Highway Icon

Nestled amidst the rolling hills and sprawling landscapes of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Turnpike serves as a testament to American ingenuity and the transformative power of infrastructure. Since its inception in 1940, this iconic highway has played a pivotal role in shaping the state's economy, connecting communities, and offering travelers a glimpse into Pennsylvania's rich heritage.



The Pennsylvania Turnpike (Images of America)

by Mitchell E. Dakelman

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 49652 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 132 pages



The Pennsylvania Turnpike: Images of America, a captivating book penned by noted historian and author George W. Rarig Jr., invites readers to embark on a nostalgic journey along this legendary roadway. Through a compelling narrative and a treasure trove of captivating photographs, Rarig

captures the essence of the Turnpike's storied past, engineering marvels, and the vibrant communities it intersects.

From Humble Beginnings to a Transportation Giant

The genesis of the Pennsylvania Turnpike can be traced back to the early 20th century, when Pennsylvania Governor Gifford Pinchot envisioned a high-speed, limited-access highway that would traverse the state. In 1937, the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission was established, and construction commenced in earnest.

The Turnpike's construction was a herculean undertaking, involving the excavation of mountains, the bridging of rivers, and the creation of tunnels through treacherous terrain. Despite these challenges, the first section of the Turnpike opened to traffic in 1940, connecting Harrisburg to Carlisle.

Over the ensuing decades, the Turnpike expanded to span over 550 miles, connecting Philadelphia to Pittsburgh and beyond. It quickly became a vital artery for commerce and travel, transporting goods and people throughout the state and beyond.

Engineering Marvels: A Testament to American Ingenuity

The Pennsylvania Turnpike is not merely a roadway; it is a showcase of American engineering prowess. The construction of the Turnpike involved overcoming numerous obstacles, including the rugged terrain of the Allegheny Mountains.

To conquer these challenges, engineers employed innovative techniques and constructed awe-inspiring structures. The Sideling Hill Tunnel, a marvel of engineering, burrows through the heart of Sideling Hill Mountain,

providing a safe passage for vehicles traveling through the treacherous terrain.

The Turnpike also boasts an impressive array of bridges, including the Susquehanna River Bridge, which spans the mighty Susquehanna River at a height of over 100 feet. These bridges not only facilitate travel but also serve as testaments to the skill and ingenuity of American engineers.

A Journey through History and Heritage

As you travel along the Pennsylvania Turnpike, you not only traverse miles but also journey through time. Historic markers dot the landscape, recounting the stories of the people and events that have shaped Pennsylvania's rich heritage.

The Turnpike intersects with numerous historical sites, including the Gettysburg Battlefield, the Flight 93 National Memorial, and the Horseshoe Curve, a breathtaking feat of railroad engineering. By exploring these sites, travelers can gain a deeper understanding of the state's pivotal role in American history.

The communities that flank the Turnpike offer a glimpse into Pennsylvania's diverse culture and traditions. From the Amish country of Lancaster County to the bustling cities of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, the Turnpike connects travelers to the heart and soul of the Keystone State.

'The Pennsylvania Turnpike: Images of America': A Captivating Visual Journey

George W. Rarig Jr.'s book, 'The Pennsylvania Turnpike: Images of America,' is an invaluable resource for anyone fascinated by the history,

engineering marvels, and cultural significance of this iconic highway. Through a captivating narrative and over 200 vintage photographs, Rarig brings the Turnpike to life.

The photographs featured in the book capture the Turnpike's evolution from its humble beginnings to its status as a modern transportation marvel. They showcase the breathtaking scenery, the engineering feats, and the human stories that have shaped the Turnpike's legacy.

'The Pennsylvania Turnpike: Images of America' is more than just a book; it is an invitation to explore one of America's most iconic roadways. Whether you are a Pennsylvania native, a history buff, or simply someone who appreciates the beauty of infrastructure, this book will captivate and inspire you.

Embark on a Journey of Discovery

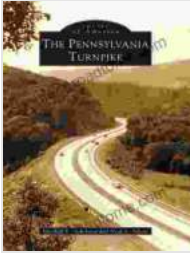
The Pennsylvania Turnpike is not merely a road; it is a symbol of American progress, ingenuity, and heritage. 'The Pennsylvania Turnpike: Images of America' offers a unique opportunity to discover the rich tapestry of stories, engineering marvels, and cultural treasures that define this legendary highway.

Embark on a journey along the Pennsylvania Turnpike and experience the allure of this American icon. Through the lens of history, engineering, and culture, discover the captivating tale of a roadway that has shaped the destiny of Pennsylvania and beyond.

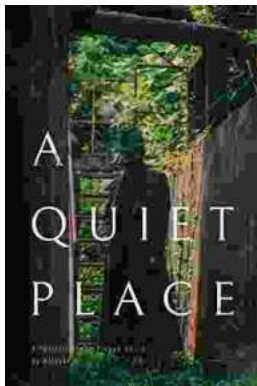
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