
The Slickrock Desert: Author Biography – Stephen W. Hinch

SHORT BIOGRAPHY (25 WORDS)

Author and photographer Stephen W. Hinch has explored the lands of the American Southwest for forty years. He makes his home in Santa Rosa, California.

MEDIUM BIOGRAPHY (127 WORDS)

Stephen W. Hinch, author of *The Slickrock Desert*, has explored the lands of the American Southwest for forty years, either on solo hikes into remote areas or with like-minded photographers on multi-day expeditions. A recognized expert on the use of GPS, his book, *Outdoor Navigation with GPS*, now in its third edition, is a bestselling guide to the subject. He is the author of five books and a contributing author to three more. Trained as an electrical engineer, he earned Bachelor of Science and Master of Engineering degrees from Harvey Mudd College and holds three patents in telecommunications technologies. Steve lives in Santa Rosa, California. He claims his expeditions into the Slickrock Desert are a necessary counterpoint to life as a senior executive in the high-technology industry.

LONG BIOGRAPHY (395 WORDS)

At first glance, Stephen W. Hinch's biography would hardly seem to paint the picture of an outdoor adventurer. After earning bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering from Harvey Mudd College in Claremont, California, he entered the high-tech industry as an engineer. His career includes executive management positions at Hewlett-Packard, Agilent Technologies, and TeamLogic IT, where he has managed product lines having revenues of over three hundred million dollars per year. He holds three patents in telecommunications technologies and is the author of five books, including his most recent, *Winning Through Innovation*. In 1988 the international industry trade association, Institute for Interconnecting and Packaging Electronic Circuits (IPC), presented him with their President's Award for his outstanding contributions to the advancement of the electronics industry.

But there is another side to Steve's background. He grew up in the Southern California coastal city of Redondo Beach. Starting at an early age, his avid rockhound parents would pack up the family and head out to remote desert locations in search of semi-precious stones nearly every weekend. These trips inspired a love of the outdoors that remains an indelible part of his life today. An avid landscape photographer, Steve has traveled the Southwest's

canyon country since 1983, either on solo hikes into remote areas or with like-minded photographers on multi-day expeditions.

Steve is a recognized expert on outdoor navigation. His book, *Outdoor Navigation with GPS*, now in its third edition, is a bestselling guide to the subject. He has taught courses on wilderness navigation to police and fire personnel, search-and-rescue teams, hunters, hikers, and backpackers for venues such as REI and Santa Rosa Junior College for many years. He is also the author of *Hiking and Adventure Guide to the Sonoma Coast and Russian River*, now in its second edition. His latest work is *The Slickrock Desert*, an entertaining exploration of the Four Corners Region of the American Southwest.

Steve has two grown children and lives in Santa Rosa, California. Though it is an ordeal to get to the Four Corners Region from Santa Rosa, his travels into canyon country have been a necessary counterpoint to a busy life as an industry executive—a way to exercise portions of his brain that would otherwise atrophy. The wonders he has experienced are woven inextricably into his text—wonders that too often become routine for those who live with them every day.