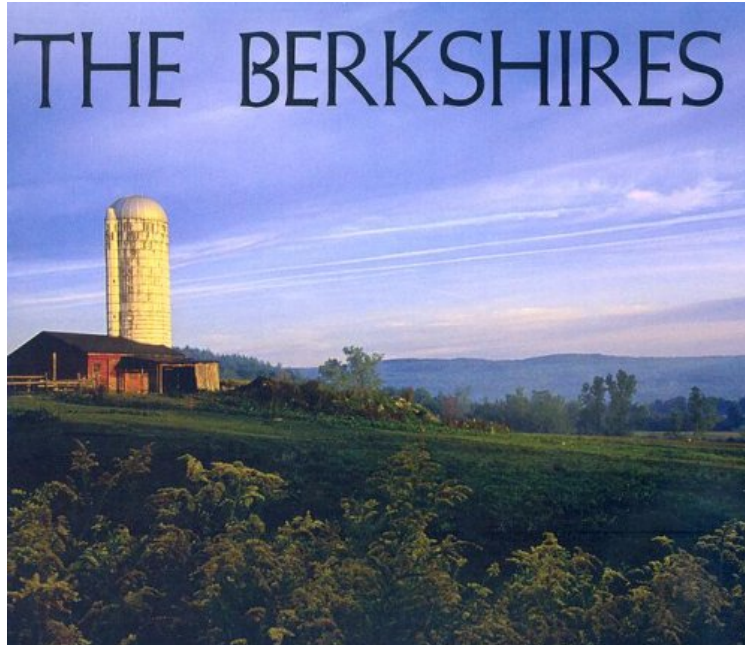


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## The Berkshires

*Stephen Donaldson*

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**Stephen Donaldson : The Berkshires** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Berkshires:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Good portraitBy Morgan fanThis is an excellent collection of photographs of an especially lovely and intriguing region of the US. Mr Donaldson clearly has the artistic instincts, plus the experience and familiarity, to choose just the right subjects in just the right conditions to capture much of the essence of the Berkshires. And while the book depicts much beguiling pastoral beauty and many charming townscapes, Donaldson doesn't shy away from the unlovely; but such images are so well done, they inspire the reader to consider the subjects from a different perspective - to place them in the context of their long history, all the while pondering how our various endeavors affect the environment - and that's an aspect of art I admire very much. Photo collections like this somehow never cease to delight in their ability to reveal much with the use of very few words. With average pictures, it's helpful to have a fair amount of descriptive text; with these, the reader can find a great deal of pleasure in studying the images and coming away with his own impressions, free from too much verbal detail: the pictures deliver the message and imprint themselves on one's mind. For me, while I lived in both the Green Mountains of Vermont and the Taconic region of New York, Mr Donaldson's work reinforces my feelings about the Berkshires being my own "blue remember'd hills." (For someone from the Rockies, for instance, that example would be splitting hairs, but New Englanders know the difference. Geography, history - human and natural - and present-day culture all play a part.)The publisher did well to use high-quality, heavyweight paper for reproducing these photographs. They're certainly worth it, and it's unfortunate that not all publishers make the effort to pair admirable art with excellent printing materials. - I'll look forward to savoring this book, sharing it with friends, and simply enjoying the sight of it on my coffee table, for a long, long time.

From the Connecticut border south of Great Barrington to Pittsfield and North Adams in the north, the Berkshires' finest landscape photographer captures the region's full-color glory.