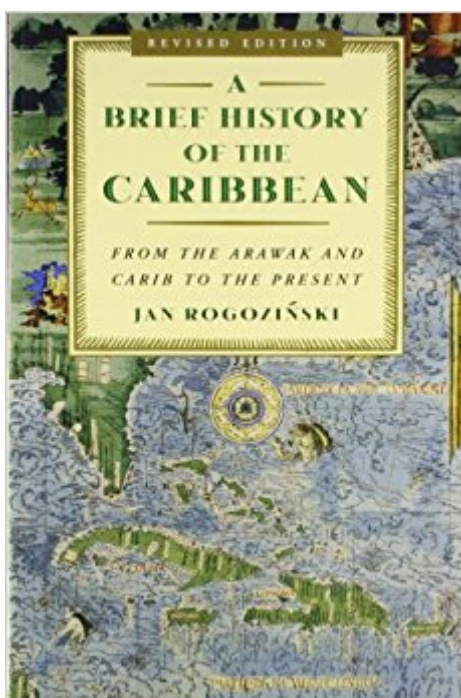


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A Brief History Of The Caribbean: From The Arawak And Carib To The Present



Synopsis

This comprehensive volume takes the reader and student through more than five hundred years of Caribbean history, beginning with Columbus's arrival in the Bahamas in 1492. A Brief History of the Caribbean traces the people and events that have marked this constantly shifting region, encompassing everything from economic booms and busts to epidemics, wars, and revolutions, and bringing to life such important figures as Sir Francis Drake, Blackbeard, Toussaint Louverture, Fidel Castro, the Duvaliers, and Jean-Bertrand Aristide. This superbly written history, revised and updated, with new chapters that reflect the islands' most recent social, economic, and political developments, is a work of impeccable scholarship. Featuring maps, charts, tables, and photographs, it remains the ideal guide to the region and its people.

Book Information

Paperback: 432 pages

Publisher: Plume; Subsequent edition (September 1, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0452281938

ISBN-13: 978-0452281936

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars 26 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #156,130 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #87 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Specific Topics > Colonialism & Post-Colonialism #112 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > International & World Politics > Caribbean & Latin American #128 in Books > History > Americas > Caribbean & West Indies

Customer Reviews

A freelance writer specializing in historical and technical subjects, Jan Rogozinski holds a Ph.D. in social and cultural history from Princeton University.

This is a well-written and fast-paced history of the Caribbean. It does its job admirably well. It begins with a topographical overview of the islands - what type of islands they are, what their climate and soil is like. It then takes the reader on a trip through time, beginning with the Native American peoples, through Columbus's discovery of the islands (yes, I wrote "discovery" - the concept of which is dealt with in a sidebar), to colonization. Now, any history of the Caribbean is

going to deal primarily with three things: sugar, slavery, and piracy. Of these three, piracy is the most fun to read about. Of course, there is the perfunctory disdain of the role of the tourist in the Caribbean, which may or may not be true (it all depends on the tourist). The book is supplemented with useful charts, maps, and pictures from the islands. If there is any fault with the book, it's just that it is an overview book. It is prone to the dangers of the genre - it deals with its subjects in broad strokes in order to tell THE ENTIRE STORY. Rogozinski is honest in pointing this out. Many of the really fun history books focus on a particular incident in history and focus on it in great detail. Personally, I was less interested in the coverage of recent politics on the islands. (Although the sections on Haiti and Cuba were fascinating.) I love the Caribbean and I love learning about it. This is a fine place to start.

I live it

This book is well worth the time and money if you're interested in the subject. It moves quickly and has plenty of maps (the maps alone are worth a star). Some of the other reviews claimed that there was bias but I didn't see it.

Very good quality.

Good basic overview of the history of the Caribbean. Introduces many of the states around the area, their history and involvement up to the modern era.

Good information for an upcoming cruise.

This has a lot of information on the Caribbean. It really is set up like an almanac. I like it.

Love it

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