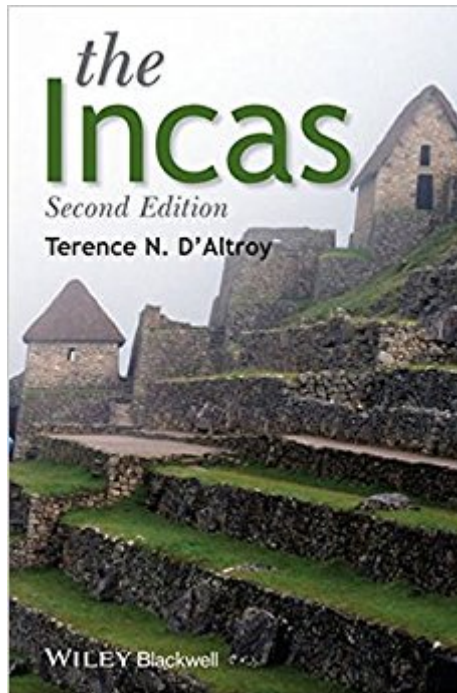


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The Incas (Peoples Of America)



Synopsis

The Incas is a captivating exploration of one of the greatest civilizations ever seen. Seamlessly drawing on history, archaeology, and ethnography, this thoroughly updated new edition integrates advances made in hundreds of new studies conducted over the last decade. Written by one of the world's leading experts on Inca civilization. Covers Inca history, politics, economy, ideology, society, and military organization. Explores advances in research that include pre-imperial Inca society; the royal capital of Cuzco; the sacred landscape; royal estates; Machu Picchu; provincial relations; the khipu information-recording technology; languages, time frames, gender relations, effects on human biology, and daily life. Explicitly examines how the Inca world view and philosophy affected the character of the empire. Illustrated with over 90 maps, figures, and photographs.

Book Information

Series: Peoples of America (Book 13)

Paperback: 566 pages

Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell; 2 edition (May 27, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1444331159

ISBN-13: 978-1444331158

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #362,993 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #39 in Books > History > Ancient Civilizations > Incan #61 in Books > History > Americas > South America > Peru #299 in Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Archaeology

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"This new edition of Terence D'Altroy's The Incas is the most complete and authoritative account to date of this last, great empire of Pre-Columbian South America. It will stand for some time to come as the go-to book to consult for everything you ever wanted to know about the Incas -- and what's more, it's an engaging, enlightening and exciting read!" -- Gary Urton, Harvard University
"D'Altroy's expanded second edition incorporates the latest Inca scholarship along with additional topics of interest. It is a masterful work by a leading expert, accessible to students and professionals alike."
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University of California, Santa Barbara *“A comprehensive overview of the Inca Empire. There is no other book that even comes close to matching Terence D’Altory’s scholarship and knowledge.”* — Brian Bauer, University of Illinois - Chicago

The Incas is a captivating exploration of the greatest civilization ever seen in the indigenous Americas. Seamlessly drawing on history, archaeology, and ethnography, the book investigates its extraordinary progress from a small Andean society in southern Peru to its rapid demise little more than a century later at the hands of the Spanish conquerors. This thoroughly updated edition integrates advances made in hundreds of new studies covering pre-imperial Inca society; the royal capital of Cuzco; the sacred landscape; royal estates including an extended discussion of Machu Picchu; provincial relations; the khipu information-recording technology; languages, time frames, gender relations, effects on human biology, and daily life. New to this edition is a fascinating investigation of Inca notions of life and death, space-time, causality, philosophy, knowledge, and human relations with non-human beings of the landscape. These insights shed light on how the Incas believed the world and cosmos worked and therefore how they could most effectively carve out their grand civilization. Covering Inca history, politics, economy, ideology, society, and military organization, this text balances information about the Cuzco heartland with the vast provincial regions, which took in lands from Colombia to central Chile, to provide a wide-ranging account.

As a prospective traveler to Peru, I found this book a very advanced, well written synopsis of years of exploration and research into the Incas. However, it has 475 pages of text that read like an encyclopedia, which is a bit more than I had in mind. It often references places for which there are no maps. I often could not really understand what in the world the author was talking about. If you are just beginning to study the Incas or researching a little bit before a trip, I would recommend another book. If you are a specialist in the Incas, of course, this book would be a must have. From reading this book, I have learned that our knowledge of the Incas is rapidly developing and expanding, so in general, a book published no later than 5 years ago is probably a good idea. Also, there is a lot of, if you will pardon the expression, pure crap out there about the Incas. A book like this sure helps tweeze out the facts from the fiction.

Shows pics of Macchu Pichu when it was found by Bingham! overgrown and derelict ! Gives great insite into how knowledgable Incas were!! Must see before you go to MP !

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