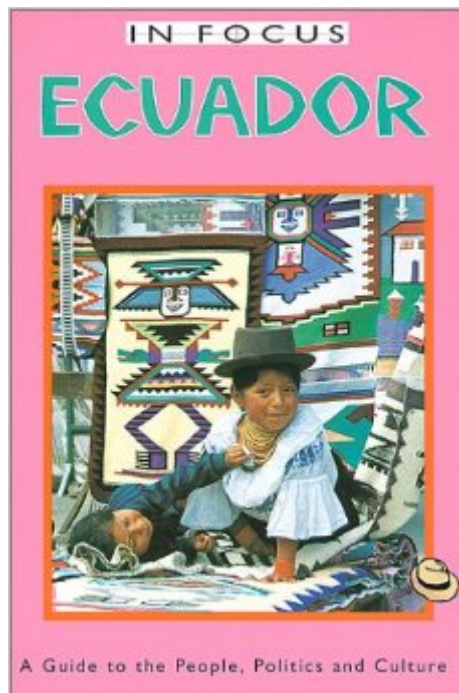


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Ecuador In Focus: A Guide To The People, Politics, And Culture (In Focus Guides)



Synopsis

This new series of country guides is designed for travellers and students who want to understand the wider picture and build up an overall knowledge of a country. Each In Focus guide is a lively and thought-provoking introduction to the country's people, politics and culture. The In Focus guides will brief you on: The history: Conquest, life as a colony, quest for independence and the building of a modern nation. How history can help explain today's society and politics. The people: Who lives where, how they live. The different worlds of the poor and the rich; blacks, Indians and whites; Arabs and Jews; indigenous, disenfranchised and dispossessed peoples; human rights. The culture: What to read, what to see, what to hear. Who's who in literature, music, dance, theater and cinema. Roots and rites of different religions. Folk traditions and indigenous cultural celebrations. The politics: Who runs the country, who wants to run the country. Power and conflict between political parties, the military, guerillas and grassroots organizations. Historical ties to the U.S. The economy: What the country produces and exports, how the economy has developed, the impact of foreign debt and free market reforms, who gains and who loses, presence and role of U.S. corporations. Where to go, what to see: Must-see landmarks, lists of monuments and historical sites as well as the author's expert tips on what to see and do to get the most out of a short trip to the country. Plus...-- Facts and figures-- Chronology-- Practical advice-- Nontourist travel-- Further reading-- Useful addresses-- Color and b&w photos-- Maps

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This short book packs in a great deal of honest and accurate information about the beautiful, complex, culturally rich, and ecologically threatened country of Ecuador. It is not a tourist guide, but recommended for prospective visitors who want to understand the culture and politics of Ecuador, and understand it quickly. It is especially valuable for its summary of the destructive effects of the petroleum industry on the ecology and economy of the country, and for its brief but accurate introduction to the country's powerful indigenous movement. It gives a sense of the country's cultural riches, and has some great color photos.

This book is really basic on the culture of Ecuador, and it didn't present me with any new information that wouldn't have been found through a simple Google search. After various research, I found this book to be an unnecessary addition to my collection on Ecuador; however, for those who are new to the country and its culture it might be nice. It is a bit dated though.

I purchased this book in prep for my travels to Ecuador this summer. I wanted a nice copy so I decided to buy new... it arrived in time but the package it was shipped in was flimsy and the spine was crushed in the middle causing a good sized fold and tear in the pages. I love the book but would be happier if it would have come in nicer condition!

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