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Cuba: Castro, Revolution, And The End Of The Embargo



Synopsis

Cuba: The Mob, Castro, and the End of the Embargo, explores Cuba's complicated history and emergence from an era of economic isolation from the US. Exploring America's relationship with Cuba, the many political forces that have shaped the country's identity including communism, Batista, and The United Fruit Company; the conflicted legacy of Che Guevara; and the current relationship between Fidel and Raul Castro and President Obama, Cuba contextualizes what the future holds for the Pearl of the Antilles.

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Customer Reviews

I found this book to be quite an interesting read. I knew very little about Cuba before reading this book. It touches on all of Cuba- the land, the history, the people, and the leaders. The book is divided into easy to follow chapters that follow a timeline of past to present, including sections on healthcare systems, commerce and economy, as well as famous people and music. Cuba really has a rich history, and is a country that from reading this book I discovered is very different than others around the world. The book is focused and to the point in each of the sections, highlighting details but not going on and on about any one area. I liked being able to read such a huge amount of subject matter this way- it let me see which area interested me the most so that I can follow up my research in specific areas. Sort of a Cuba-synopsis if you will!!! I found the sections on their healthcare system fascinating! I won't spoil the details, but they run their system in such a way that it truly model- worthy for others to follow! And their beliefs and practices on communicating and practicing that healthcare on a global scale are to be commended! This book has made me want to

learn so much more about that area of infrastructure! Included throughout the text are pages with famous quotes and interesting facts. There is even a recipe for a very popular Cuban drink- the Cuba Libre Cocktail! These little add ins made the book more enjoyable to read. I do feel that I took away a decent amount of new-found knowledge from this book about Cuba. I would recommend it. Book was provided for the purpose of inspection and unbiased review. All opinions are my own.

Cuba the bold and beautiful! I have always wanted to visit Cuba I heard it is beautiful and must see, however I do not know much about it till today. I started reading expecting to just read few pages till tomorrow however before I knew it I was turning the last page. The book kept my attention the entire time! It beat my expectations. The book starts off with giving you little background information on Cuba. A little Q&A to follow up with some interesting things like their healthcare system, their currency. Next you get to learn about the beginning of Cuba- colonization, fight for independence, exporting. Their presidents, some revolution study! throughout you will run into little Did you know? which are really cool! The book also goes into Castro and governing. I learned a lot about him! I had heard of his name but never knew what he put Cuba through till now. The pictures are beautiful, the little bubble charts make it fun. The book is extremely interesting, very informative and in simple terms. This book would be great for someone who wants to learn about Cuba in general, Castro, or even for someone doing a essay on such things. It would be a great cited reference! the only down point I have found with this book is the pages print quality is poor, it looks like I printed it from my home and put it together. However its only a \$7 book so I guess that makes it okay. It could also be larger. However the pictures are beautiful, the book is very interesting. I would highly recommend this book to be added to your personal home library!!

As a child of the 60s, so many names and phrases were familiar but I was too young at the time to understand (or care?) what they meant. I find myself wanting to learn about history the older I get, so this book filled in a lot of blanks! I had no idea that Cuba had reinvented itself so many times over the years! I loved the little did you know? blurbs as well as the sections on movie info/trivia, cigars, the Revolution Quick Study and famous Cubans. There is also a section about the US Presidents and the impact they had on Cuba at the time (interesting to note that it seemed more about loosening then tightening restrictions on a regular basis than by political party) The Guantánamo Bay information was interesting too. On page 14 there is an error that wasn't caught by proofreaders as a paragraph was printed twice, but since the majority of the content was new to me, that is the only negative thing that stood out. Perhaps I would restructure just a little and

put the "cliff note"™ info at the beginning of a chapter instead of in the middle. It made it feel like I was reading the same info 2-3 times. With the travel restrictions recently eased, if you are thinking of going to Cuba I would say this is a must read. If you enjoy learning about other cultures and history in general, I recommend this book. It was an easy read (3-4 hours with several interruptions) and has lots of color and graphics to keep you turning the pages! I have a grandson that is interested in history and is soaking it up like a sponge so I plan to offer this book to him and I see several similar Lightning Guides we will read in the future!*I received this book free in exchange for an honest review*

So I wasn't sure how I would feel about this book, but I actually really do like it. Cuba is one of the few places I would like to visit, and this tells me so much that I did not know! You can get all the background you might need by reading this book. It gives you questions and answers, that you may have never known without reading this or talking to someone who is from there, or who has been there. You learn about famous folks who visited (ie: Columbus and the Pope), you learn about Castro, and everything he has done. You learn about tourism (which of course, if we go, we are tourists, so this is great :D), and their industries such as tobacco, and sugar cane. While we are known for oil, veggies, etc, Cuba is a large distributor/grower of both sugar cane and tobacco. This is something I never knew before reading this. This book is small and thin, but it packs a lot of information you might need. It's easy to carry with you when you are traveling as well. I carried it in my purse until I finished reading it! Overall I recommend this book if you want to learn a bit more about Cuba in a short amount of time.

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