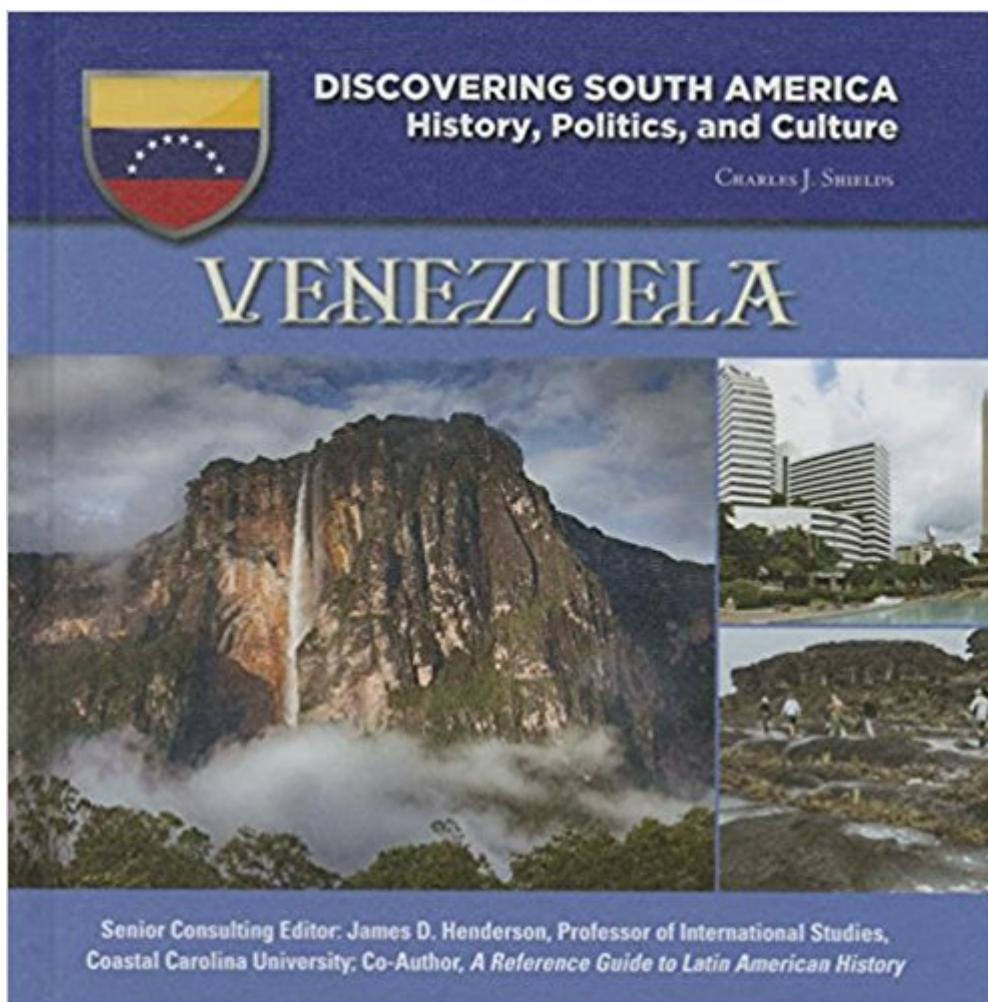


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Venezuela (Discovering South America: History, Politics, And Culture)



Synopsis

In 1499, the Spanish navigator Alonso de Ojeda explored the coast of South America. When his ships entered a gulf, he found that Amerindians had built their homes on stilts along the swampy shore of what became known as Lake Maracaibo. This reminded the explorers of the city of Venice, in Europe, so they named the region Venezuela (Spanish for Little Venice). The socialist government of Hugo Chvez, who ruled from 1999 until his death in 2011, put in place new laws that it said would improve the lives of poorer Venezuelans. However, the laws have instead resulted in economic problems, including rising inflation rates. Venezuela is also troubled by high levels of crime and violence, as well as government corruption. As a result, in recent years the Venezuelan people have publicly demonstrated to demand changes. There's a lot to discover about Venezuela! Each title in this series contains color photos, maps, a chronology of events related to the country, recipes, list of festivals, ideas for projects and reports, and back matter including: an index, further reading lists for books and internet resources, and a series glossary. Mason Crest's editorial team has placed Key Icons to Look for throughout the books in this series in an effort to encourage library readers to build knowledge, gain awareness, explore possibilities and expand their viewpoints through our content rich non-fiction books. Key Icons are as follows: Words to Understand are shown at the front of each chapter with definitions. These words are then used in the prose throughout that chapter, and are emboldened, so that the reader is able to reference back to the definitions- building their vocabulary and enhancing their reading comprehension. Sidebars are highlighted graphics with content rich

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