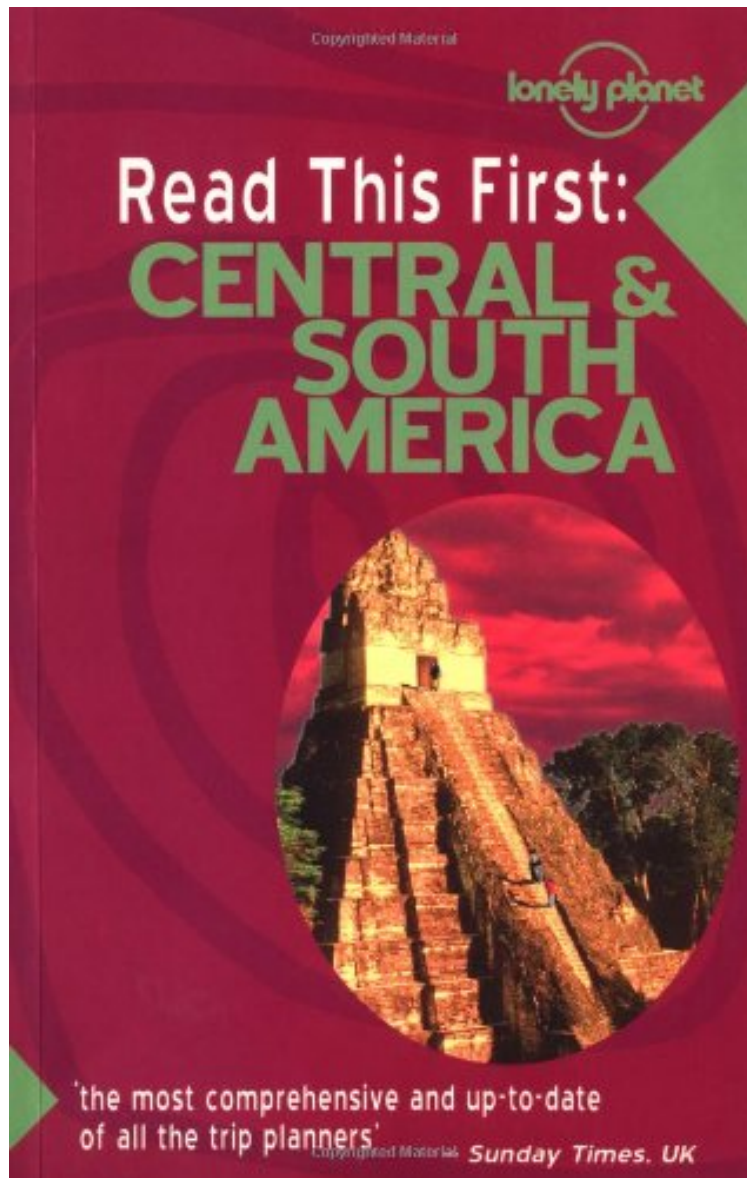


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Central South America (Lonely Planet Read This First)

Conner Gorry

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Conner Gorry : Central South America (Lonely Planet Read This First) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Central South America (Lonely Planet Read This First):

5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A good book for a beginner - but nowhere near enough detail By William P. Dwyer This book is probably a good start for anyone who has never travelled to Latin America. It does provide some good background info (weather statistics, cultural info, major festival times, etc) on how to plan a rough

outline for a trip. It even has sections on travel themes (e.g. where to go whitewater rafting, where to go hiking, where the good beaches are, etc.) The problem is that the information is way too general and brief. For example, in this 300 page book there are only 1-2 pages covering the highlights of each country, and only a half page that describes possible itineraries in each country. Detailed trip planning will require more than this book, so you might as well start with a more complete book. 9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Very disappointing. By A Customer This book is designed for a first time traveller -- over half of it was advice about weather, shots, and traveller's checks. Detail about where to go and what to see is disappointing -- it only gives a very general outline about it country (they seem to all have jungles, mountains, and ruins) and then recommends other guide books. If you are only buying 1-2 guide books, just buy the other ones. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great travel dreaming book and high level planning tool By doesitmatter I'm going to buck the trend here and give this book a positive review. In the past 2 years I have been on the road for over 1 year. Most recently returning from a 7 month trip which included Australia, Thailand, Indonesia, Japan, India, Nepal, UAE, and Qatar among others. Prior to this recent trip I spent 6 weeks in Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, and Argentina. I used the LP RTF series as a general planning tool - correlating the maps with the weather charts provided. As well as utilizing the regional travel tips provided. While certainly not a detailed guide it provided just the right level of information to help me determine where I wanted to go, how to get to and from those points (quick border info) and roughly how much time I wanted to spend there via the sample itineraries. The maps are colorful and excellent, they include different colors showing the sample itineraries which are based on trips of different time lengths (1 week, 2 weeks, etc...) and little flags indicating land border checkpoints. Paper quality is also nice and glossy. I am now planning another trip to Brazil, Colombia, and Panama. I am finding this guide to be useful once again in charting out an overall course. I have specific guidebooks for each of these countries (Not all LP I'll add), but as a "1 stop shop/read" in a compact format the LP RTF series is unbeatable in my opinion. Another useful feature of the book is the chart showing all the countries listed in the region and whether a visa is required. Although I did find one mistake in the chart, a visa is required for US Citizens visiting Brazil. Though I'm not sure if the latter is a result of this book's April 2000 print date. For the real adventurous this might be the only guide one needs to bring to the region. (It wasn't my only guidebook, maybe someday) Strong language skills and confidence in travelling "lite" and/or picking up guidebooks / tourist pamphlets / searching out internet sites on the way would be recommended. Great book, if used the right way. If you are only planning on going to a single country, then I wouldn't bother with this book. But, if you are planning a multi-country trip, or just need a better idea of where to spend your time - this could be a book for you.

Every year, thousands of travellers head off for their first international journey, and Lonely Planet's new "Read this First" series equips them with the confidence to meet all the challenges they encounter on the road. This guide is the essential pre-departure tool for travel to Central and South America.