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The Costa Rica Reader: History, Culture, Politics

By Ivan Molina, Steven Palmer

Duke University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Costa Rica Reader: History, Culture, Politics, Ivan Molina, Steven Palmer, Long characterized as an exceptional country within Latin America, Costa Rica has been hailed as democratic oasis in a continent scorched by dictatorship and revolution; the ecological Mecca of a biosphere laid waste by deforestation and urban blight; and an egalitarian, middle-class society blissfully immune to the violent class and racial conflicts that have haunted the region. Arguing that conceptions of Costa Rica as a happy anomaly downplay its rich heritage and diverse population, The Costa Rica Reader brings together texts and artwork designed to reveal the complexity of the country's past and present. It characterizes Costa Rica as a site of alternatives and possibilities that undermine stereotypes about the region's history and challenge the idea that current dilemmas facing Latin America are inevitable or insoluble. This essential introduction to Costa Rica includes more than fifty texts related to the country's history, culture, politics, and natural environment. Most of these newspaper accounts, histories, petitions, memoirs, poems, and essays are written by Costa Ricans. Many appear here in English for the first time. The authors are men and women, young and...



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