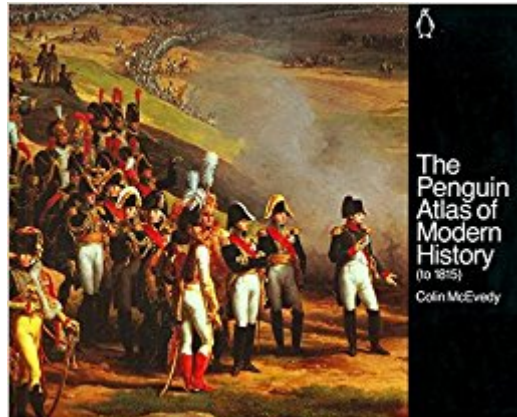


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The Penguin Atlas Of Modern History : To 1815 (Hist Atlas)



Synopsis

In The Penguin Atlas of Modern History, Colin McEvedy has compiled an absorbing source of reference to the major developments of modern history from 1483 to 1815. Nearly forty maps and a detailed commentary follow the voyages of Columbus, Magellan, and Cook, the ebb of power from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic seaboard, and the protracted European struggle for control of a vastly new money economy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In The Penguin Atlas of Modern History Colin McEvedy has compiled an absorbing source of reference to the major developments of modern history from 1483 to 1815.

Colin McEvedy is the author of the companion volumes The New Penguin Atlas of Medieval History and The Penguin Atlas of North American History.

I've actually owned all of McEvedy's Penguin atlases (Ancient, Medieval, Modern, Recent, US, African, and Population) for a long time and they are among my favorites. I bought the Ancient, Medieval, and Modern atlases as a graduation present for my grand-nephew who likes history. I like how each atlas is a series of maps for the same geographic area, showing how countries and cultures change over time. I also enjoy McEvedy's dry witty commentary. My only regret is that he

has not done an Asian atlas

These little books by Colin McEvedy have been around a long time. This was the second time I purchased them, and this time they're not going to be given out! Very concise and easy to understand. There is a good overview of each page giving not only the map for that time frame but an excellent historical review. Please note that this book only concerns European and Middle Eastern history, with quite a lot of reference to their impact on the western hemisphere, but does not include anything on Asian and Oriental history.

Sure, there are prettier atlases with better and more colorful graphics, but for a highly informative and compelling look at history, you can't do better than The Penguin Atlases. If you love history, you are doing yourself a disservice by not having these on your shelf. In the Penguin Atlas of Modern History (to 1815), Colin McEvedy begins by providing a look at the pre-discovery world of 1483 with a population map and a religion map. He then shows us the Voyages of Discovery 1487-1500 and world political units as of 1600. Once we settle down on Europe, we are treated to a map of European population and religion before shifting to towns, trade, and revenue. Then we get to the heart of these wonderful atlases, the political units, maps which cover history in snapshots spaced a few decades apart. As you can imagine, Europe changed quite a bit between 1483 and 1815 and these maps are an excellent way of illustrating those changes. For example, here McEvedy goes from 1483 to 1520, revealing the waning of the Ottoman tide of conquest and the end of the Reconquista in Spain. We see the boundaries of the Holy Roman Empire recede from Italy and France's encroachment into this area with the French occupation of Milan in 1499. We next look at Europe in 1559 and see the sweeping success of Charles V, often at the expense of Francis I of France. The Ottomans have encroached on the Habsburgs and we see the small but hardly insignificant Knights of St. John on Malta, appear on our map. Every so often, McEvedy takes a look at population and religion and on a separate map, towns, trade, and revenue, here at the 1600, 1715 and 1815 marks. He takes a look at world population again in 1648 and 1815. What makes these atlases so charming is the historical dialogue opposite each, giving more depth the maps than many atlases offer, and all for a very affordable price. These atlases are very useful whether you are working on a book report for school or looking for information for an article or the kernel of a story set in historical times. I cannot recommend them highly enough despite their Eurocentric focus.

Provides basic information about what was going on in the world, how that affected what happened then, and how it impacted our modern world

Great overview of modern history!

Very entertaining and informative. Lovely writing style. History with a dose of restrained humour. Give a fantastic helicopter view of modern history.

Love it

McEvedy does a brilliant job of not only telling you what happened but showing you the maps that make each move come to life.

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