

Venezuela - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture

Russell Maddicks

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Russell Maddicks : Venezuela - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Venezuela - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good, greatBy CustomerGood, great, topical, brief. It is interesting to hear the praises of a socialist paradise and to see what it is now. A true lesson in history. It brings to mind the question: if it was praised for being a socialist country when it was "working", why are we told that it is NOT a case in

point against socialism now that it is in collapse? They have socialised medicine, gun control, redistribution of wealth and food and many other socialist policies in place. The govt owns everything and nothing is privately owned. It is INDEED a socialist nation. So there is NO dodging the bullet with this one. America and oil are not to blame either. Yes the oil market took a dip but so did the rest of the world and other countries are not a hell on earth. Moral of the story: free markets correct themselves; socialism implodes overtime.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.
The ultimate guide to mingle in Venezuela
By Cesar Maurera
I read Culture Smart China a few months ago ahead of a trip to Shanghai and found it very useful. I'm a Venezuelan living in Australia and I wanted to donate my local library a few books about my country of origin. Therefore I ordered this book. When I got the book I started browsing in it and ended up reading it over the week-end. I was positively surprised, the book describes everything you need to know to get by in Venezuela, from business etiquette to interaction with people of the opposite sex. What I found outstanding is how the every day life of Venezuelans is examined in this book, there's a guide on how to order coffee and arepas, it explains the importance of dancing in our social life, the attitude towards the law which is key both in business and to cope local life style. There's a chapter on Venezuelan's attitudes towards foreigners that I think will help "gringos" and "musius" visiting the country. Frankly the author covers every situation you can think of and in a very accurate manner. On top of that, the book is very easy to read. In my opinion is "a must read" if you're visiting Venezuela.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.
excellent guide
By Customer SSQI
am Venezuelan and I consider that this book is an excellent guide for those who has any interest about Venezuela and Venezuelan people. I deeply thanks to Mr Maddicks to take the time and the dedication to write this book.

An influential oil producer with a colorful and charismatic president at its helm since 1999, Venezuela is a vast, sometimes frustrating, but never dull country. It is one of the most complex countries in Latin America and one of the least understood. An ambitious attempt to benefit the poor and redistribute oil wealth by President Hugo Chavez has seen a major political transformation in recent years that has put a severe strain on its traditional ties with the USA. He has made steadfast attempts to confront his powerful northern neighbor and reduce Venezuela's economic dependence on the United States. However, Miami remains the top holiday destination for Venezuelans traveling abroad, baseball beats soccer as the preferred sport, and teenage girls still cover their bedroom walls with American idols like Justin Bieber. Venezuelans are known for being friendly, gregarious, and outgoing. They value family over everything and love to criticize the status quo, but they are also fiercely proud and protective of their homeland and react poorly to criticism of their country from outsiders. Culture Smart! Venezuela takes you beyond the stereotypical descriptions of a tropical petro-state, famous for its beauty queens and its populist president, to provide you with an insider's understanding of the country and its people. Practical tips, valuable insights, and vital statistics will help you get to the heart of this vibrant, sometimes contradictory, and increasingly important country.

Culture Smart! has come to the rescue of hapless travellers, Sunday Times Travel - ...the perfect introduction to the weird, wonderful and downright odd quirks and customs of various countries, Global Travel - ...full of fascinating, as well as common sense,
About the Author
Russell Maddicks is a BBC-trained journalist who lived in Venezuela for eleven years. He traveled the length and breadth of the country, and to finance his stay he worked in jobs that helped him to get under the skin of his adopted home: as an English teacher at the British Council; a jungle guide taking tour groups to the base of Angel Falls and the top of Roraima; a translator and interpreter; and a reporter on an English-language newspaper. There are few corners of Venezuela he hasn't visited in his quest to explore every facet of this fascinating country. He is the author of the Bradt Guide to Venezuela (2011).