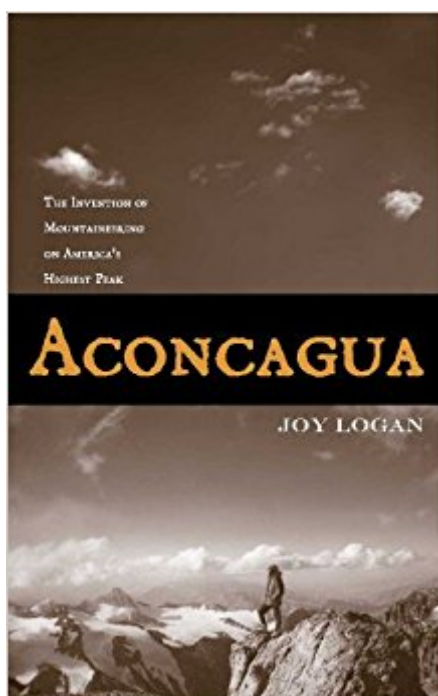


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Aconcagua: The Invention Of Mountaineering On America's Highest Peak



Synopsis

Aconcagua is the highest mountain in the Americas and the tallest mountain in the world outside of the Himalayas. Located in the Andes Mountains of Argentina, near the city of Mendoza, Aconcagua has been luring European mountain climbers since 1883, when a German geologist nearly reached the mountain's summit. (A Swiss climber finally made the ascent in 1897.) In this fascinating book, Joy Logan explores the many impacts of mountaineering's "discovery" of Aconcagua including its effect on how local indigenous history is understood. The consequences still resonate today, as the region has become a magnet for "adventure travelers" with about 7,000 climbers and trekkers from all over the world visiting each year. Having done fieldwork on Aconcagua for six years, Logan offers keen insights into how the invention of mountaineering in the nineteenth century and adventure tourism a century later have both shaped and been shaped by local and global cultural narratives. She examines the roles and functions of mountain guides, especially in regard to notions of gender and nation; re-reads the mountaineering stories forged by explorers, scientists, tourism officials, and the gear industry; and considers the distinctions between foreign and Argentine climbers (some of whom are celebrities in their own right). In Logan's revealing analysis, Aconcagua is emblematic of the tensions produced by modernity, nation-building, tourism development, and re-ethnification. The evolution of mountain climbing on Aconcagua registers seismic shifts in attitudes toward adventure, the national, and the global. With an eye for detail and a flair for description, Logan invites her readers onto the mountain and into the lives it supports.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Logan's work is exciting and provocative because it brings new attention to a neglected area of the field: the Andean region of Argentina. This book is one of the first to examine the hybrid and often ambiguous operations of modernity through such a compelling avenue of research: the development of adventure tourism." — Marcia Stephenson, author of *Gender and Modernity in Andean Bolivia* "An original and well-crafted book that offers compelling insights for a wide range of fields." — *Journal of Latin American Studies*

Joy Logan explores the many impacts of mountaineering's "discovery" of Aconcagua including its effect on how local indigenous history is understood.

This is a well written book with amazing detail about Aconcagua! The book is an easy read and allows the reader to easily embrace the majestic beauty of the mountain and the many lives that Aconcagua has touched. Nicely done!

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