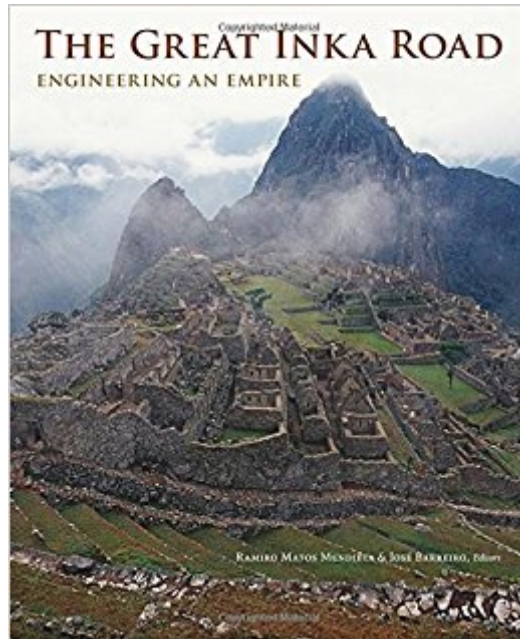


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# The Great Inka Road: Engineering An Empire



## Synopsis

This compelling collection of essays explores the Qhapaq nan (or Great Inca Road), an extensive network of trails reaching modern-day Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, and Argentina. These roads and the accompanying agricultural terraces and structures that have survived for more than six centuries are a testament to the advanced engineering and construction skills of the Inca people. The Qhapaq nan also spurred an important process of ecological and community integration across the Andean region. This book, the companion volume to a National Museum of the American Indian exhibition of the same name, features essays on six main themes: the ancestors of the Inca, Cusco as the center of the empire, road engineering, road transportation and integration, the road in the Colonial era, and the road today. Beautifully designed and featuring more than 225 full-color illustrations, The Great Inka Road is a fascinating look at this enduring symbol of the Andean peoples' strength and adaptability.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

RAMIRO MATOS (Quechua) is an archaeologist and senior curator for Latin America at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. JOSE BARREIRO (Taino) is assistant director for research at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian and director of the Office of Latin America.

Enjoyed the exhibit at the American Indian Museum. I wanted to get the book so I could learn more and remember what I had learned. Nice book!

Beautiful illustrations, wonderful book, wish I'd had this while reading 1491!

This is a lovely book and I have only had time to start it.[maybe 50 pages] The information is incredible and the illustrations and pictures are grand. The Incas were amazing people for their time and this piece of literature only goes to prove their brilliance.

got my copy on time, item as advertised

haven't had a chance to really get into it but the pictures and the layout are great....

Amazing book with wonderful history and beautiful photography.

This book is published in conjunction with an exhibit at the Museum of the American Indian in Washington DC. . It makes a good coffee table book as well as an educational one. There is stunning photography and maps to illustrate the regions and describe the history of the road and historical figures. There is a photo of a suspension bridge, the only preindustrial American civilization to build one; it gives one the full feeling of what crossing this would feel like. We are also shown the annual rebuilding of it. Photographs show how the road was built and still in use today. Many aspects of the surroundings are explored - the terraces for agricultural use, walls and temples. We can see how many of the Inka structures remain standing while others have collapsed around them. History of the Inkas is not omitted including the sacrifices. The Inka road in colonial times as well as the road today, including sections of the Pan American highway that takes advantage of parts of the ancient Inka road are detailed. There is a glossary and an index. This is a book for those who enjoy photography, South America, and information on Indian tribes such as the Inkas.

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