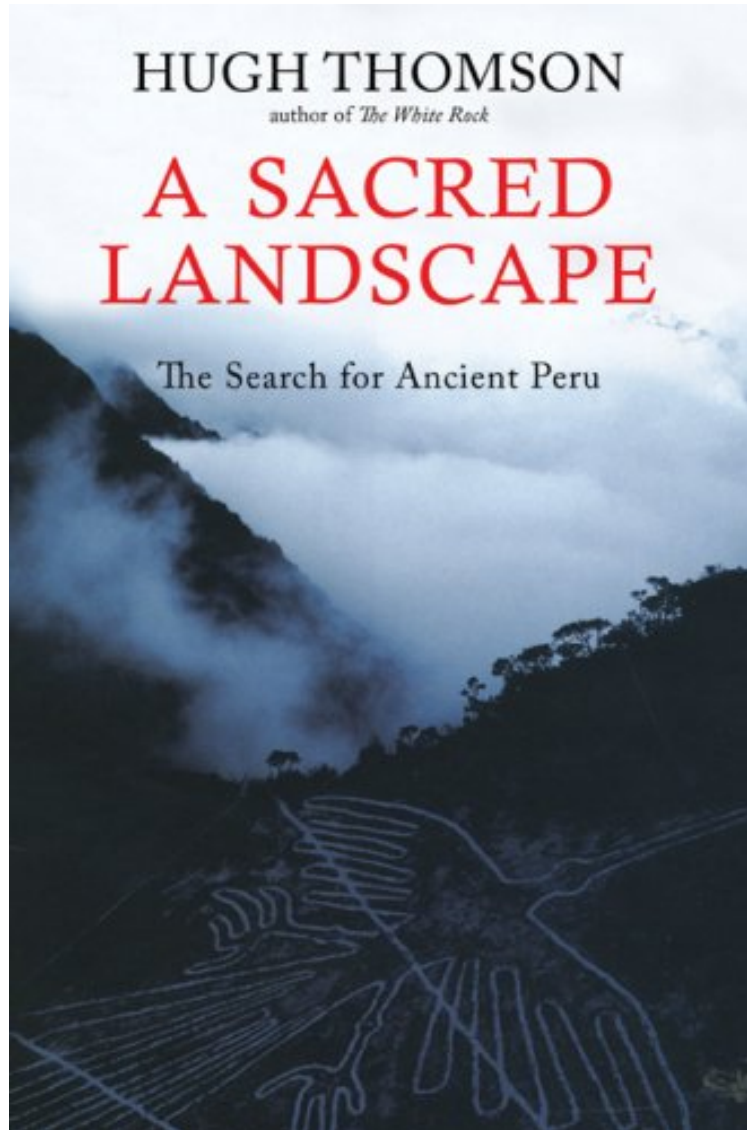


[Download] A Sacred LandscapeThe Search for Ancient Peru

A Sacred LandscapeThe Search for Ancient Peru

Hugh Thomson

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Hugh Thomson : A Sacred LandscapeThe Search for Ancient Peru before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Sacred LandscapeThe Search for Ancient Peru:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Thomson takes you all across Peru and its "sacred landscape"By L. GlennSo many people just focus on Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley. This book journeys all across the Peruvian landscape visiting some known and some not-so-known treasures/historical sites in Peru. As always in his books, the reader learns history, the cultural landscape of the time when Thomson was writing, observes Thomson's inner and

outer landscape and insights (love those nuggets), and comes away with a greater understanding of the history and culture he is describing. My favorite chapter was the one on Caral. And the anecdote of seeing Star Wars in Spanish is great! This book gave me a deeper appreciation for Peru and for the way its ancient people wove "reciprocity" into the land and culture, how in some areas, that concept was lost to them, but was always there whether known, practiced, or abandoned. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great overview and retrospective

By nikki morgan
This book was recommended to me prior to a trip to Peru. I didn't get to it before my trip but rather read it afterwards and it was excellent, especially after having been to some of the same or similar places and having a sense of place while reading. Without summarizing Thompson weaves a wonderful picture of Precolumbian Peru, a complicated series of civilizations whose rise and fall are as often environmentally driven, in this harsh land, as they are a series of conquests. The remains of these civilizations dot the Peruvian landscape both coastal and Andean and form a lush sense of human continuity over the millennia. Before I left for Peru I read the newer book *Turn Right at Machu Picchu* and thoroughly enjoyed it. Both books added so much to my literary enjoyment of the land and the people. If you are looking for an excellent historical and archaeological picture of ancient Peru, this is it. If you're planning a trip this is a great book either before you leave and if you don't get to it, pick it up upon returning home, it will take you back and enrich the totality of the experience. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I'll recommend Hugh to anyone

By docubuff
I've read two or three of his books... helped me research my off-the-beaten trail treks I did while living in Peru and Bolivia for 15 months. Wonderful reads and extremely informative.

Many of the extraordinary cultures of Ancient Peru, from the lines of the Nasca to the temple-cult of Chavn and the great pyramids of the coast, have only started to give up their secrets in just the last few years. Hugh Thompson has been at the forefront of some of these discoveries. He made headlines with his work near Machu Picchu, which he recounted brilliantly in *The White Rock*. Now he takes the reader on a journey back from the great Moche pyramids to remote sites in the Central highlands that date back to the first millennium BCE--ancient Incan sites of the Andes that remain cloaked in mystery. Thompson gives an immensely personal and accessible guide to the region's wonders alongside the story of his family's relocation to a farm in the Yucay valley, the one-time heartland of ancient Peru. Drawing on the year that he spent alongside contemporary Peruvians, Thompson illuminates how things have changed--or failed to change--in the five centuries that separate contemporary Peru from the civilization that is one of the world's oldest and most captivating enigmas.

From Booklist
After traveling across Peru for more than two decades, writer and documentary filmmaker Thomson (*The White Rock*, 2003) began discerning unexpected connections between distant monumental ruins. An amiable and erudite guide, he provides a clarifying overview of Andean scholarship much as Wade Davis did for the in *One River* (1996), along with vivid descriptions of astronomically oriented buildings and powerful artworks, some sexually explicit, others grotesque depictions of human sacrifice. Always looking to the landscape for clues, Thomson theorizes that these bloody rites were aimed at deflecting natural disasters, especially a lack of freshwater and radical climate change, predicaments sadly relevant to our time. His feet-on-the-ground approach and alertness to the significance of textiles and pilgrim routes in decoding the purpose of ancient constructions also yield a fresh take on the famous geoglyphs of Nasca, the immense line drawings of birds and animals viewable only from the air. Anecdotal and instructive as he weaves together lively profiles, tales from arduous explorations, and carefully weighted insights, Thomson creates an encompassing vision of the complex cosmologies of pre-Columbian Andean civilizations.

Seaman, Donna "A dizzying tour through five turbulent millennia. The cumulative effect is enthralling." -- *The Times*
"Conveys not only Thompson's great knowledge of the ancient civilizations of the Andes, but also the thrill of the chase for such knowledge." -- *The Spectator*

About the Author
Hugh Thomson traveled extensively in Latin America before becoming a filmmaker. He has since directed many documentaries, including the *Out of India* series and *Great Journeys: Mexico* and has led filming expeditions to Mexico and the Himalayas. He is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and lives in Bristol.