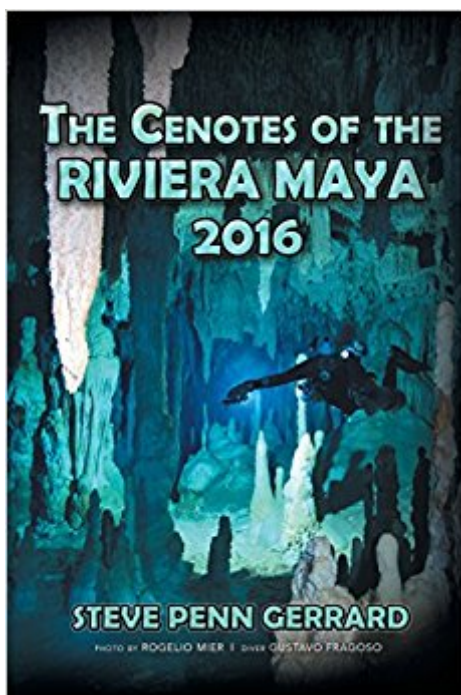


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The Cenotes Of The Riviera Maya 2016



Synopsis

Finalist for the 2014-2015 Sarton Literary Award for Contemporary Fiction! What would happen if women and girls joined their unique abilities to change the world? In a time where access to the written word is reserved to men, Andra BetScrivener's ability to read and write must remain a secret, or she could lose her hands, her eyes or her life. At 17 she discovers that her abilities extend beyond reading: She can write events to life. Despite her efforts to keep her powers hidden, she comes to the attention of both the government and a rebel group, who each desire to use Andra for their own goals. She learns that her words have the power to kill, threatening her father's life and her own freedom. Andra's fight empowers others to stop governmental oppression. But in a society ruled by lies, cruelty and inequality, her journey will not be easy or safe.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (21 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

While very different from the "coffee table" style of the first edition, this book is wonderful in its own way: in its encyclopedic array of information about the water-filled caverns and caves -- and cenotes, of course -- of the Yucatan Peninsula. Steve's vast knowledge and years of experience in the area really shines through and if you're interested in snorkeling or cave diving in this area, you won't find any reference that even comes close to this. Highly recommended.

Took it Mex last week and found only 1 out of the 3 caves I looked for. I did not find 27 steps (I think roads are no longer there) and Chicken Water - both are near Akumal. GPS coordinates appear wrong too (maybe my GPS was set wrong) - tried to verify coordinate on known cave and they were

still way off. Book has amazing potential but Mr. Gerrard need to drive each cave and ensure the directions are correct; so much has changed in the Riviera audit keeps . I've dove many of the usual caves so once I leave the beaten path the directions need to be somewhat accurate for the book to be valuable.

I have Steve's previous book and have used it to entice people to join me on trips to Tulum area. I was actually very surprised when the new addition arrived. I figured it would just be an updated version maybe some newer pictures. This version is jam packed with information that must have taken years to assemble and put into a systematic encyclopedia of the cenotes, caves and history surrounding Riviera Maya. Even though I have been visiting the area for nearly 10 years I found lots of new places to dive and good intelligence on how to do. Information such as where to pick up the key or who is the actual land owner can be hard to come by for visitors. Steve has pulled back the curtain on local only knowledge and generously shared with us all. I have first hand knowledge of several places mentioned in the book, some only very recently opened to the public and all the information is spot on from my experiences. Once upon a time this knowledge would only come from hard work establishing relationships and possibly multiple rounds of tequila with the right people. Anyone from backpackers looking to snorkel in a pristine Cenote to hardcore visiting cave divers will benefit from bringing the guide along with them in their gear bag. Thanks for the obvious labor of love! You have created a follow up edition that manages to surpass the excellence of the original. A rare accomplishment.

In all honesty I think "The Cenotes of the Riviera...", is only good as an overview of the cave diving in the Yucatan. If you are considering purchasing this book to actually find your way to the cenotes, especially the cenotes around Tulum, then save your money. As a general overview of the diving here in the Yucatan the book deserves two stars but as a guide I would only give the book one star. Here's why: First, the book needs an index. It's really hard to find information on a specific cenote because the reader must page through lists of locations to find the dive of interest. In at least one case, two cenotes located within one mile of one another are described in completely different parts of the book. Secondly, the directions offered are often incorrect including the coordinates and different directions to the same dive site are offered in the same description of the cenote. We have spent a lot of wasted time looking for dive sites based on the faulty directions found in Steve's book. Lastly, the writing needs significant editing.

This is a very comprehensive book on diving and the excellent cenotes in this region of Mexico. As a newer diver with just over 75 dives, I have become enthralled with the challenge and beauty of cavern and eventually diving the caves in this region. I have dove a couple of cenotes with a guide, Dos Ojos and Taj Ma Ha and had an excellent time. I know I will use this guide as an invaluable reference guide as I begin my journey to cavern through full cave diver, exploring these bits of time held in stasis. Steve uses a very entertaining while informative style throughout his book that kept me engaged throughout. I would not hesitate to recommend this book to anyone who has the slightest interest in this subject.

Plenty of information, but not useful-- doesn't give you any idea of what most of the cenotes are actually like to visit. Historical information is certainly interesting, but there really isn't that much written about the physical features of each site-- in many cases, it doesn't even mention if the cenote is open to the sky or enclosed. Travel blogs have proven far more informative. Some of the information in this book is outdated (eg which spots offer equipment rentals or facilities on site). The images on the kindle version are poor and there is no way to access sections for particular areas from the table of contents-- you have to scroll through all of the pages of dive sites looking for the entry you need. God-awful book.

It's been a few years since I have dove the Cenotes. The last few years have been mostly in the caves in Central Florida. I received Steve's book this morning and spent several hours bouncing around in it reading the descriptions of many of the places I have seen and I look forward to reading more over the next few days of places I want to see in the Fall of 2016. Steve's descriptions are concise and yet give the true cave diver the ability to see what he has seen. Steve also goes into details about the landowners and flow of many of the systems so that we can better understand the systems and the history behind them. Great book for anyone who is a cave diver and a neat book for the average recreational diver who may be interested in taking the next step. Bill Adams
Aqua Adventures of North Carolina
TDI/SDI 11920
PADI 172367
IANTD 3694

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