Sources

Viewpoints (Greenhaven, 2002) relays arguments and research related to the impact of gambling on society but not elements of the games themselves. Likewise, Thompson's other book, Legalized Gambling: A Reference Handbook (ABC-CLIO, 1994) and Haugen's Legalized Gambling (Facts on File, 2006) provide excellent overviews and research to legal issues related to gambling in the United States but do not fully address international issues. Former stage magician John Scarne wrote numerous guides to gambling and gaming, including the recent reprint of Scarne's New Complete Guide to Gambling (Fireside, 2005), but these mostly inform on the games, strategies, and odds behind gambling. Sifakis's Encyclopedia of Gambling (Facts on File, 1990) comes closest to this work in scope and content but is now dated.

The International Encyclopedia of Gambling updates this gap in the literature and provides comprehensive coverage to all aspects related to gambling. Entries include general topics such as “Economic Impacts of Gambling,” and “Religion and Gambling”; explanations of games such as “Baccara,” “Jai Alai,” and “Poker”; numerous biographies; overviews of gambling in more than eighty international regions and countries and all U.S. states; and summaries of major legal cases. Each of the entries is well written and accessible to novices on the subject and comes with a number of references. In general, this work serves as an excellent starting point for further research.

In sum, the scope and quality of The International Encyclopedia of Gambling, as well as the major gap in the literature that it fills on the subject, makes it a must for all academic libraries and highly recommended for all libraries. –Rick Robison, Reference and Access Services Coordinator, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California


Latino History and Culture: An Encyclopedia, edited by David J. Leonard and Carmen R. Lugo-Lugo (associate professors in the Department of Comparative Ethnic Studies at Washington State University), offers almost three hundred articles, most approximately two pages, on Latino life in the United States. The encyclopedia opens with three introductory essays that provide overviews of three historical eras: 1492–1900, 1900–1965, and 1965 present. The signed A–Z entries that follow provide information on the “notable events, people, moves and trends, ideas, issues, and cultural expressions of Latinos/as in America, giving voice to their histories and experiences” (xxii).

Entries for popular culture include, “Boxing,” “Hip-Hop,” “Lowriders,” and “Professional Wrestling.” Essays about institutions and organizations include the “American GI Forum,” “Brothers to the Rescue,” and the “Congressional Hispanic Caucus.” Articles on social issues cover “Acculturation and Assimilation,” the “Chicano Movement,” and the “Family and Community.” Less well known historical topics include those on the “Foraker Act (1900),” which established U.S. civilian rule in Puerto Rico and the concept of “mulataje,” a term used in colonial America to refer to the intermixing of blacks and whites. All essays include a further reading list and some include a black and white photo. The first volume of the encyclopedia includes a topic finder that allows users to see groupings of articles on a similar subject. The second volume provides a chronology, a bibliography, and a general index.

Latino History and Culture: An Encyclopedia shares many article topics with previously published encyclopedias on Latino life, including two four-volume works, Stavnans The Encyclopedia Latina: History, Culture and Society in the United States (Grolier, 2005) and The Oxford Encyclopedia of Latinos and Latinas in the United States (Oxford, 2005), edited by Oboler and Gonzalez. Like these larger sets, Latino History and Culture provides scholarly yet accessible articles. While the articles in the Encyclopedia Latina and the Oxford Encyclopedia are generally more in-depth and cover a broader range of topics, Latino History and Culture is unique in that it includes articles for the many people who originate from places other than Mexico, Cuba, and Puerto Rico. The individual articles provided for Bolivians, Guatemalans, Paraguayans, and other Central and South American countries include a discussion of the varied historical, social, and economic impetuses that brought people from these countries to the United States.

Latino History and Culture: An Encyclopedia is appropriate for high school, public, and academic libraries. Large public and academic libraries who can afford to do so will also want to purchase either the Encyclopedia Latina or The Oxford Encyclopedia. —Eileen Oliver, Reference Librarian, San Antonio College Library, San Antonio, Texas


David F. Marley's Pirates of the Americas emerges as the first encyclopedia that covers both the history of pirates in the Americas as well as the naval history for this region. Marley's credentials as a naval historian and author of Pirates and Privatiers of the Americas (ABC-Clio, 1994) seem to engender knowledge of the subject. Other reference titles with similar subject headings include the following: Terry Breverton's The Pirate Dictionary (Pelican Pub. Co., 2004) and his The Pirate Handbook: A Dictionary of Pirate Terms and Places (Glyndwr Pub., 2004), and Jan Rogozinski's The Wordsworth Dictionary of Pirates (Wordsworth Reference, 1997) and Pirates!: Brigands, Buccaneers, and Privatiers in Fact, Fiction, and Legend (Facts on File, 1995). In contrast to similar titles, Marley's Pirates of the Americas, with more than five hundred entries and numbering 868 pages, is more than double the length of both of Rogozinski's books.

Kris E. Lane's Pillaging the Empire: Piracy in the Americas 1500–1750 (M.E. Sharpe, 1998), while not a reference title, covers many of the same topics found in Pirates in the Americas. Lane's work includes a well-written introduction,
in which Lane defines both “pirate” and “privateering.” By comparison, the same cannot be said of Marley’s *Pirates of the Americas*. Marley does not define “pirate” anywhere in the text: a significant shortcoming.

Without an introduction and with prefaces and some entries that require pre-existing knowledge of the topic, this reference source can leave readers feeling “lost at sea.” For example, the reader is left to ponder why certain individuals are mentioned. One can only guess that entries for “Alford, Lewis (fl. 1659)” and “Allen, Captain (fl. 1659)” are included because they are referenced in someone’s journal, in this case that of Colonel Edward D’Oyley, Governor of Jamaica (8). Moreover, the title of many biographical entries contains “fl.,” and unfortunately, this is never defined anywhere in the text, leaving readers in a quandary. By consulting the online version of the *Hutchinson Dictionary of Abbreviations and Acronyms* (Helicon, 2005), one discovers that “fl.” stands for the Latin term floruit, which means “he/she flourished” (8). Illustrations and maps certainly do not flourish in this encyclopedia. Maps would greatly enhance this reference source, especially for the geographically challenged.

The breadth of this encyclopedia is its best asset. The content is not based solely on the adventures of pirates, but also contains entries on those who warded them off, such as “Barreda Villigas, Felipe de (fl. 1680–1685).” Entries include an array of biographies and a mix of geographic place names and definitions, including slang terms such as “Apostles”: a military slang term used during the sixteen hundreds to describe the “charges carried in a bandolier or cartridge belt... usually number[ing] a dozen” (483). Duplication of entries, primarily geographic locations and vocabulary terms, occur, with entries for “Barre’s Tavern” and “Billiards” appearing in both volumes. With the exception of biographical entries, most articles are a page or less in length. Entries are arranged alphabetically. Volume one, which focuses on the period 1650 to 1685, emphasizes the escapades of Dutch, English, French, and Spanish pirates. Volume two, 1686 to 1725, subtly shifts away from the Dutch and Spanish and toward the English and French. The most useful sections appear in each volume and include the following: a detailed chronology, a glossary, and a documents section, containing primary source materials. These features redeem the encyclopedia to an extent.

Unfortunately, the strengths of *Pirates of the Americas* cannot offset its weaknesses. Therefore it stands as an optional title for public, school, and academic libraries.—Elizabeth A. Young, Research and Information Literacy Librarian, Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland


Editors Zumerchik and Danver approach this vast topic—interestingly arranged alphabetically under three different headings—primarily from the point of view of the use of the world’s many manifestations of water. “History of the World’s Seas and Waterways” includes such entries as “African Rivers,” “Australian Ports” and “Harbors, North American Dams and Locks,” and “Caspian Sea.” “Uses of the World’s Seas and Waterways” has entries such as “Methane Hydrates,” “Fishing Methods and Technology,” “Pharmaceuticals from the Sea,” and “Containerization.” The third section, “Issues Pertaining to the World’s Seas and Waterways,” includes such entries as “Research Vessels and Missions,” “Storm and Flood Control,” and “Pollution.” This two-volume set has a complete index to the set in each volume, always helpful, and a chronology and glossary at the end of the second volume. Black and white photographs, maps, and prints are used throughout, if somewhat sparingly. The occasional “sidebars,” usually biographical or related to a specific conference or set of laws, are a darker gray in background than is ideal and appealing for reading comfortably. There are thirty-five contributors, mostly university professors from the United States, but Australia, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Nigeria are also represented.

The entries vary in length, but are generally well done and offer an eclectic look at the world’s oceans, rivers, and lakes, as well as the title’s seas and waterways. The size of the set precludes longer, comprehensive articles, but the editors do not pretend to cover their topics in depth in 126 entries with an average length of five pages. Interesting articles about the history of the use of waterways, natural and manmade, trace the growth of commerce, political contention, research, and recreation related to water on our planet.

The editing could have been more stringent—I found three proofreading errors in three different entries in the first hour of examination of this source. Additionally, in a comparatively short work, why are both “Coastal Tourism Industry” and a “Seaside Resorts and Tourism” among the only thirty-six entries in the “Uses” section?

For the most part, however, this is a rather unique reference source that is only partially comparable to various encyclopedias on oceans and seas, such as Richard Ellis’s *Encyclopedia of the Sea* (Knopf, 2000) or Dorrik Stow’s *Encyclopedia of the Oceans* (Oxford University Press, 2004). Its emphasis on economics and commerce and its focus on all types of waterways means that it also overlaps with such encyclopedias as Michael Luck’s *Encyclopedia of Tourism and Recreation in Marine Environments* (CABI, 2008) as well as encyclopedias on inland waters such as lakes and rivers—and even some encyclopedias on the history of technology. Recommended for high school, public, and college and university libraries.—Judith Faust, Chair, Library Faculty, California State University, East Bay, Hayward, California


Building upon knowledge acquired from writing his book, *Echoes Among the Stars: A Short History of the U.S. Space