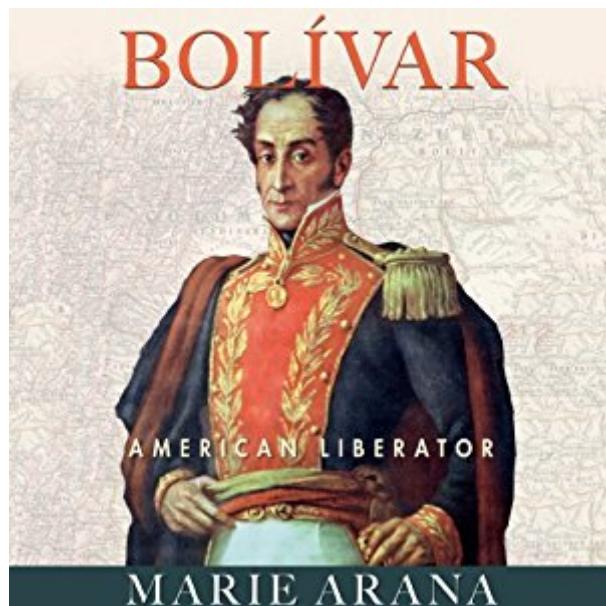


The book was found

Bolívar: American Liberator



Simón Bolívar liberated six South American countries from Spanish rule. An amazing achievement. Marie Arana has accomplished no less an amazing achievement in her mighty tome *Bolívar: American Liberator* (Simon & Schuster, 2013). Arana's book is impressive, both in its girth (464 pages of text plus over 100 pages of notes) and the depth of research conducted into Bolívar's life. Born into a wealthy family in 1783 Caracas in the Venezuelan portion of the Spanish empire, Simón Bolívar hardly seemed destined to be a revolutionary. A slight 5'6" in height and only 130 lbs, he nevertheless was a "spirited youth." He grew up in luxury in a country in which the Spanish crown had imposed strict divisions between the classes and races. A trip to Europe as he came of age exposed him to even greater privilege, but also inspired him to pledge that he would liberate his homeland. Arana captures this coming of age in a story that reads like a novel. After two revolutions fail to take hold, Bolívar finally is able to lead the creation of a third republic that begins a constant battle that would consume him for the rest of his life. Arana deftly intertwines the events of the United States (War of 1812) and Europe (Napoleon, Spanish wars) with the major battles and exploits of Bolívar and other key players both within and without of his control. In what we now might call "mission creep," the revolution to rid Venezuela from the Spanish spreads across greater Granada and beyond to encompass what now includes Venezuela, Colombia, Panama, Ecuador, Peru and the newly created Bolivia (named after Bolívar).

Although there are sixteen cities or counties named for Venezuelan-born Simón Bolívar in the United States -- including Bolivar (Jefferson County) West Virginia, next door to Harpers Ferry -- the real Great Liberator -- the man behind the elaborate uniforms he's pictured in -- is not very well known in the United States. Marie Arana of *The Washington Post* remedies that in her masterful, comprehensive and very readable biography. Even so, the military leader/politician's life and philosophy was so complicated that you'll probably come away from Arana's book with more questions than answers. And that's a good thing to take away from an outstanding biography. If there's truth in Harry Truman's famous statement that if you want a friend in Washington, DC get a dog, advice given to Simón José Antonio de la Santísima Trinidad Bolívar y Palacios Ponte y Blanco (24 July 1783 - 17 December 1830) would be to get dogs in the capitals of all six of the countries he's credited with liberating: Caracas, Venezuela; Bogota, Colombia; Panama City, Panama (then part of Colombia); Quito, Ecuador; Lima, Peru (together with Argentina's Don José de San Martín), and La Paz, Bolivia. The book's publication was timed to coincide with the 200th anniversary of his first effort to throw off the Spanish yoke from Venezuela, the first of six countries he's credited with freeing. In so doing, he traveled more than 75,000 miles on horseback -- gaining

the nickname "Iron Ass" -- and became the greatest figure in Latin American history.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Bolivar: American Liberator The Bolivarian Revolution (Revolutions Series): Hugo Chavez presents Simon Bolivar B-24 Liberator Units of the Fifteenth Air Force (Osprey Combat Aircraft 21) The Liberator: One World War II Soldier's 500-Day Odyssey from the Beaches of Sicily to the Gates of Dachau Losing Lincoln (The Liberator Series Book 2) Leveraging Lincoln: A Civil War Novel (The Liberator Series Book 1) American Collection Ranch Style: 200 New House Plans (The American Collection) (The American Collection) American Sniper Chris Kyle: Life and Death of the Most Lethal American Sniper (American Military History Book 1) AMERICAN COUNTRY BUILDING DESIGN: Rediscovered Plans For 19th-Century American Farmhouses, Cottages, Landscapes, Barns, Carriage Houses & Outbuildings How To Make Kitchen Cabinets (Best of American Woodworker): Build, Upgrade, and Install Your Own with the Experts at American Woodworker How to Make Outdoor & Garden Furniture: Instructions for Tables, Chairs, Planters, Trellises & More from the Experts at American Woodworker (American Woodworker (Paperback)) American Illustration 14 (American Illustration Great Big Book of Fun): Over 200 Original Works, Photographed & Reproduced in the latest Color Effects at Tremendous Expense America on Stone the Other Printmakers to the American People a Chronicle of American Lithography Indian Blues: American Indians and the Politics of Music, 1879-1934 (New Directions in Native American Studies series) Lift Every Voice: The History of African American Music (The African American History Series) Chosen Voices: THE STORY OF THE AMERICAN CANTORATE (Music in American Life) American Cinema / American Culture, 4th Edition A History of African American Theatre (Cambridge Studies in American Theatre and Drama) Classic American Railroad Volume III (Classic American Railroads) American Pit Bull Terrier Calendar - Only Dog Breed American Pit Bull Terriers Calendar - 2016 Wall calendars - Dog Calendars - Monthly Wall Calendar by Avonside

[Dmca](#)