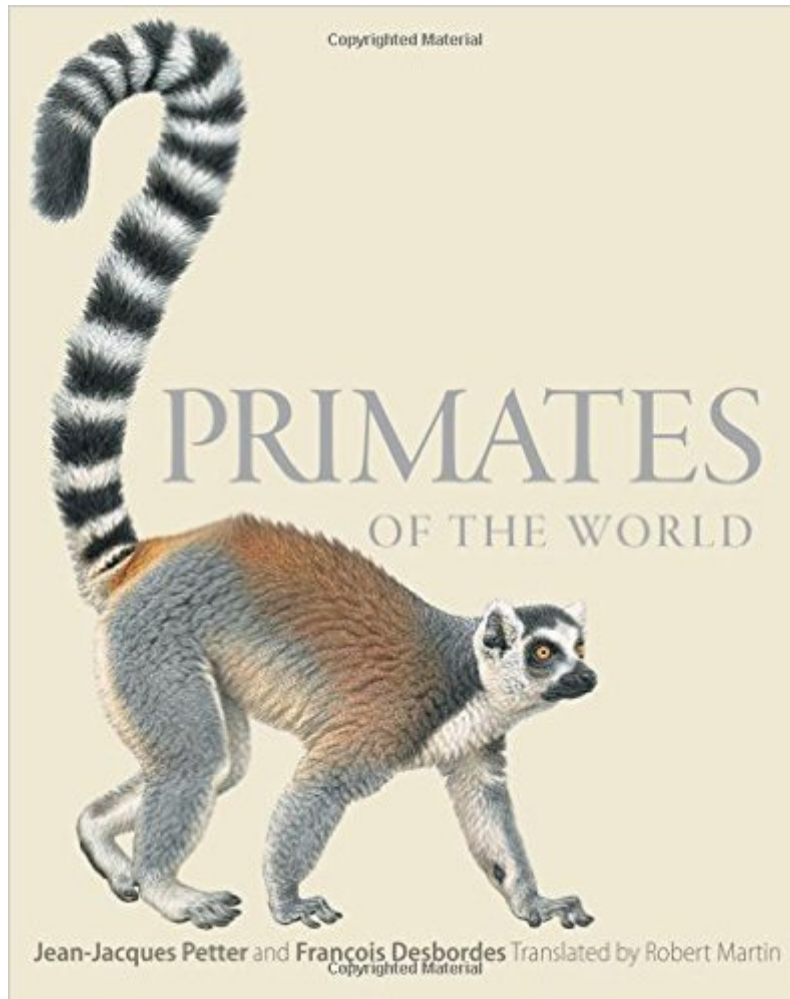


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Primates Of The World: An Illustrated Guide



Synopsis

This stunningly illustrated guide to the world's primates covers nearly 300 species, from the feather-light and solitary pygmy mouse lemurs of Madagascar--among the smallest primates known to exist--to the regal mountain gorillas of Africa. Organized by region and spanning every family of primates on Earth, the book features 72 splendid color plates, facing-page descriptions of key features of each family, and 86 color distribution maps. *Primates of the World* also includes concise introductory chapters that discuss the latest findings on primate origins and evolution, behavior and adaptations, and classification, making it the most comprehensive and up-to-date primate guide available. Covers nearly 300 species and every family of primates worldwide Features 72 color plates--the finest illustrations of primates ever produced Includes facing-page descriptions for each family and 86 color distribution maps The most comprehensive and up-to-date guide to the world's primates

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I must say I was expecting a little more when I purchased this book. I already have the third volume of the "Handbook of the Mammals of the World" published by Lynx, which is essentially a complete monograph of primates with detailed introduction of every family and species accounts for every species currently known. As great as the HMW is, it is extremely bulky, the text is more geared towards the scientific community, the art is slightly lackluster, and it is EXTREMELY EXPENSIVE. However, all of this can be looked over considering how complete the book is given the time it was

published. When I bought "Primates of the World", I was not expecting nearly as much detail as a HMW. I was expecting something more akin to "Carnivores of the World" also published by Princeton where it will be a more affordable version of the HMW with a shorter introduction, simpler text (I didn't want to feel like I'm doing research every time I read it since I do enough of that already) and brief species accounts of every species of primate. That is not the case. There is a fairly lengthy reader-friendly introduction followed by wonderfully illustrated species accounts. the art is at least 2 times better than those found in the HMW. HOWEVER, the species coverage is SEVERELY lacking. Out of 17 species of dwarf mouse lemurs, it only illustrates 3, out of the 12 species of capuchins, it only shows 4, out of 9 species of howlers it only shows 4 and so on. In addition, it doesn't even acknowledge the new species discoveries. The new mouse lemurs I can understand because those discoveries are VERY recent but the Lesula and the Stryker's Snub-nosed monkey weren't even mentioned yet HMW included species accounts for BOTH despite being published BEFORE "Primates of the World". If you are just a casual reader hoping to learn some general primate knowledge and enjoys great art, then this is the perfect book for you. If you want a complete guide of the primate order, then this book is severely lacking.

This volume is exceptional in a number of different ways. The illustrations are absolutely outstanding and stunning. So life-like, one expects to sense the softness of the fur or for them to almost jump off the page. They are truly gorgeous and accurate works of art and zoology. Not only is no other primate book, I know of, and I have quite a few, so well illustrated, including the new one in the Handbook of the Mammals (HBM) of the series by Lynx Publications, but this book is a tiny fraction of the price. Granted it is not meant to be an detailed tome on each family, let alone each species, as is the HBM volume, but it is worth anyone's while, who loves beautifully illustrated and informative works on any subject, particularly within the natural history lexicon. Additionally the text is very helpful in understanding the various families of primates (man is excluded) and the maps are also unique and excellent. Different species, but related, often are shown on the same map but each is very carefully color-coded to have its range clearly shown (the quality of these maps is virtually unique in ANY natural history guide). Don't pass this exceptional book up! You will enjoy and cherish it as a special entry in the universe of guides on nature.

If you like primates and savor good, breathtaking illustrations, this book is for you. While the new handbook of the primates of the world contains very good photos and an insane amount of information, what "Primates of the world" has to offer is a relatively cheap, well informative (gives

you very good general instructions and suggests books for further reading) and beautifully illustrated book. The plates have an accurate level of detail, and, for the species I know in real life, I could not find any mistakes. Moreover, the illustrator depicts the animal in real life position, which, for me, is a plus.

For the price is one of the best guides. Unfortunately, is not complete with all species, but worth every penny.

I found a used copy in good condition and picked it up. I have to say this is an absolutely fantastic visual guide to primates of the world. The illustrations are stunning, and capture the anatomy, coloration, and general "feel" of each species portrayed (by the way they are posed, for example). The guide seems to be comprehensive and reasonably up-to-date, but I'm not a primate expert. As a lover of art and zoology, though, I can't say enough good things about this book. Highly recommended.

It describes the main characteristics of every primate genus and displays a beautiful illustration of every primate species and includes its distribution map. A must for whoever has a serious interest in mammals.

This guide is nice and pretty but unfortunately it's not informative enough. I expected it at least to give the information of the conservation status of every species.

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