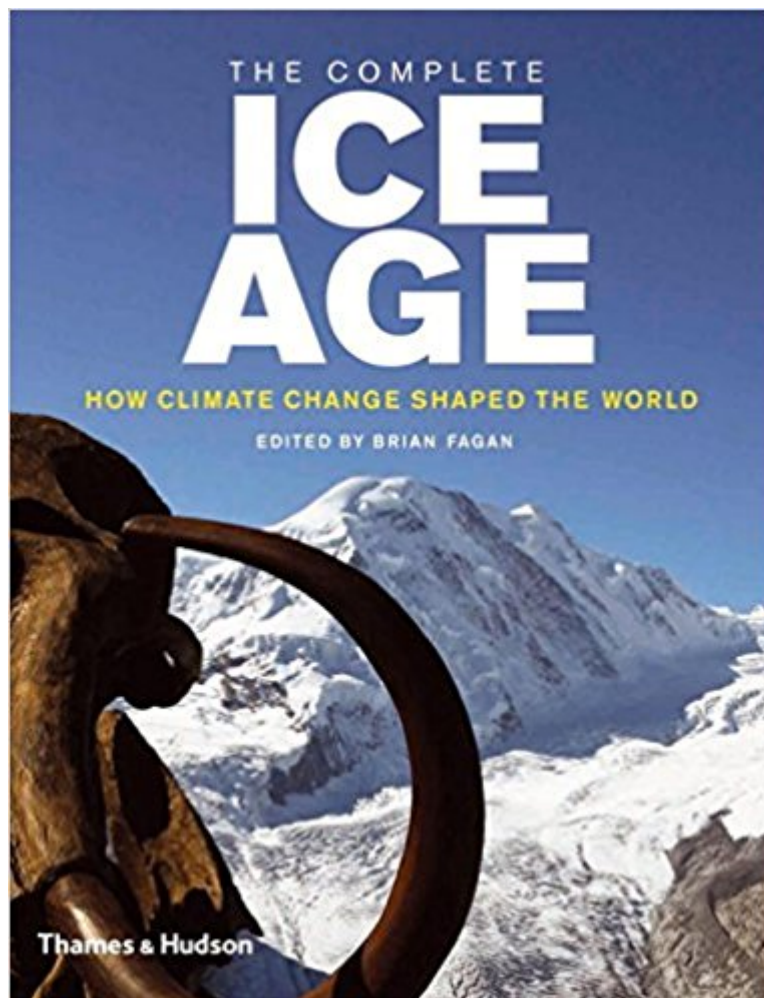




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The Complete Ice Age: How Climate Change Shaped The World (The Complete Series)



Synopsis

A detailed look at this critical period in Earth's history, from two million years ago to c. 10,000 BC, beautifully illustrated with photographs, diagrams, and reconstruction scenes. Written by three distinguished experts and overseen by a leading historian of climate change, Brian Fagan, *The Complete Ice Age* reveals how climate fluctuated wildly between severe glacial periods and warmer intervals, how long-extinct creatures once roamed the harsh landscapes, and how archaic and then modern humans adapted as they spread from tropical Africa and colonized the world. This book covers a critical period in Earth's and humanity's history, from two million years ago to the present day. We travel with Neanderthal and more recent Ice Age hunters and encounter saber-toothed tigers and the giant woolly mammoth. We learn how new scientific enquiries, from DNA evidence to the study of human bones, are revealing the adaptability and evolution of the human species. And what of the future? We tend to forget that we are currently enjoying a warmer interglacial respite that began just 12,000 years ago. If past climatic change is any guide, the Ice Age should return within, geologically, a relatively short time. But will it, or will human profligacy cause catastrophic global warming? With contributions by John F. Hoffecker (University of Colorado), Mark Maslin (University College London), and Hannah O'Regan (Liverpool John Moores University). 225 color, 25 b&w illustrations

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Largely accessible to general readers | Fascinating |. An excellent

discussion of the Ice Age. - Choice

Brian Fagan is Emeritus Professor at the University of California, Santa Barbara. His many books include *The First North Americans*, *Discovery!*, and *The Complete Ice Age*.

The Complete Ice Age: How Climate Change Shaped the World is an anthology of articles on the latest theories of how the Ice Ages began, ran their course, and warmed into interglacials, such as our current one. Brian Fagan, the editor, has written a number of very accessible books that combines the detailed paleoclimate data scientists have brought out of the study of global warming, and expertly combines them with archaeological data to show climate's influence on what happened. Here, he draws in specialist colleagues to look at different aspects of how the last Ice Age took shape, ended, and affected the growth of humankind into our modern forms. The book concludes with a look at the potential effects of global warming, and how it fits into the natural cycle of Ice Ages and interglacials that have been the norm for several million years now. The book is thus a look back, using the latest and best knowledge we have, and the use of that knowledge to look forward, at a potential future. I would recommend it equally to those interested in archaeology and in global warming. The book is lavishly illustrated with color photographs and drawings that help the reader follow along with the discussions at hand. It is a great read.

The many pictures, drawings, charts and graphs tells a much better story than can be done in words alone. It covers the Ice Age to the present and charts the causes and theories of climate change and resulting ocean level changes. It puts in historical perspective the current issues of our day relating to sea levels. Its a keeper in my library.

For those of us interested in climate change, long term climate cycles, and the migration of mankind and animals from Africa with a backdrop of the last ice age, this is the book. It is somewhat academic but packed with information. It's the best I have read todate.

It's interesting, but I wish it were more detailed. I guess that's for textbooks.

If you are interested in a decent or quality primer on the Ice Age or the Pleistocene era this book is a good purchase. It is written so that the average person could understand the basics. If you are already familiar with this period it would be more of a marginal purchase. Lavishly and well

illustrated with informative charts, and artists renderings.

Got this for my daughter's book report project. While most 'Ice Age' books cover the history of how ice ages were discovered, this one covers conditions during glacial periods, as well as what causes ice ages.

Interesting coverage of an era most of us don't get in school. Great illustrations make it especially useful for school age/undergraduates interested in the early geologic periods.

I thought Ice Age was just an excellent book. I read it conjunction with Brian Fagan's The Long Summer and I preferred Ice Age. I felt that The Long Summer contained a great deal of gratuitous filler about how people might have hunted, might have farmed, might have lived, etc. I prefer my non fiction a bit less speculative, and Ice Age fit the bill perfectly in this regard. In particular, the chapters on the history, causes, and magnitude of climate change authored by Mark Maslin were models of clarity and conciseness. Admittedly Ice Age is an overview aimed at a lay audience and probably wouldn't satisfy the needs of academics, but for me it merits five stars.

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