



## California (A History)

By Kevin Starr

Random House USA Inc, United States, 2007. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Reprint. 201 x 132 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. California has always been our Shangri-la the promised land of countless pilgrims in search of the American Dream. Now the Golden State s premier historian, Kevin Starr, distills the entire sweep of California s history into one splendid volume. From the age of exploration to the age of Arnold, this is the story of a place at once quintessentially American and utterly unique. Arguing that America s most populous state has always been blessed with both spectacular natural beauty and astonishing human diversity, Starr unfolds a rapid-fire epic of discovery, innovation, catastrophe, and triumph. For generations, California s native peoples basked in the abundance of a climate and topography eminently suited to human habitation. By the time the Spanish arrived in the early sixteenth century, there were scores of autonomous tribes were thriving in the region. Though conquest was rapid, nearly two centuries passed before Spain exerted control over upper California through the chain of missions that stand to this day. The discovery of gold in January 1848 changed everything. With population increasing exponentially as get-rich-quick dreamers converged...



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