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It is being heralded as the ultimate book about the world and it is something of a landmark in its own right. *Earth* - the biggest atlas ever to be published - promises to be a luxurious benchmark in cartography.

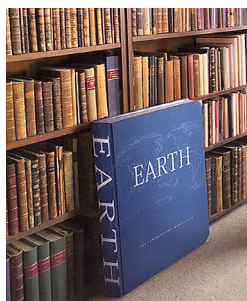
Earth is a comprehensive world atlas, examining the physical world with new emphasis on current political, social and environmental landscapes. The atlas is 2 feet high, opens to 4 feet wide and weighs 66 pounds. This 576-page book includes 154 maps, and 800 images.



The atlas presents a comprehensive look at the world, from the earliest geological records and primitive monocultures to the cosmopolitan melting pots of our modern times. The book is divided into five parts:

- ♦ Above earth: breathtaking satellite images
- ♦ Earth from space: the universe, stars, and planets
- ♦ Landscapes of earth: the face of Earth
- ♦ Life on earth: wildlife and habitats in focus
- ♦ Human history on earth: timelines of humankind
- ♦ Regions of earth: world atlas and fact files on earth's 194 countries.

This huge volume is filled with detailed full-color illustrations and topographic map plates that bring each country and region to life with an in-depth profile that reveals unique characteristics of each nation.



www.millenniumhouse.com.au/earth.html



Rice Paddies

Its existence owes much, if not all, to the perseverance of Australian businessman Gordon Cheers who has been dreaming of creating such a book for over 20 years. Cheers, who has spent much of his working life at some of the world's major publishing houses, couldn't convince his various employers to take the project on. Penguin said no. So did Random House. Undeterred, Cheers decided to start his own company, Millennium House. It has taken a team of over 100 photographers, cartographers, geographers and oceanographers eight months to bring the book together.



"You really don't get a sense of the size of this book until you see it. It has pushed the skills of all the people involved in the project," Cheers told CNN.

During production, several cartographers' computers crashed and had to be upgraded because the maps were so large and so detailed. This exquisite limited edition atlas takes cartography to a new level.



Regatta in Venice

Revised 05/21/09

