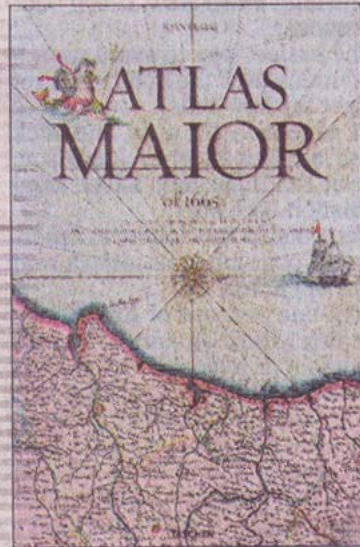


■ The world might be getting smaller, but atlases aren't. The "Atlas Maior of 1665" (Taschen, \$200) is a weighty 17-by-12-inch, 594-page reproduction of a work published in 1665 by Dutch cartographer Joan Blaeu. It was the largest and costliest book of its day and, with its 594 maps, was the standard of atlases for a century. This edition is reproduced from a hand-colored copy in the National Library of Vienna and includes explanatory notes by Peter van der Krogt complementing Blaeu's words.



The Associated Press

The cover of "The Atlas Maior of 1665"