Hispaniola is a the second largest Caribbean island, situated in the center of the Caribbean biodiversity hotspot. The island is divided into two countries: Haiti and the Dominican Republic. The similarities between the butterfly faunas of these two countries are much more prominent than the differences. In the late 1600s, France took over the western part of the island of Hispaniola from Spain, dividing the island into two countries: Haiti and the Dominican Republic. This division coincides with the border that separates the island into two distinct regions. The similarities between the butterfly faunas of these two countries are much more prominent than the differences. The island is divided into two countries: Haiti and the Dominican Republic. The similarities between the butterfly faunas of these two countries are much more prominent than the differences.