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Venetiarum amplissima & maritima urbs, cum multis circumiacentibus insulis

Stock#: 68713
Map Maker: Munster
Date: 1552
Place: Basel
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 15.5 x 10 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

This is a gorgeous full-color example of Munster's view of Venice, from a Latin edition of Munster's *Cosmographia*, which was one of the most prolific works of the 16th and 17th centuries.

This is one of the earliest obtainable birds-eye views of Venice. This image portrays Venice at the start of its three-century decline from power. While the city still thrived on trade, the growing power of the city-states on the mainland and the city's lack of success at the Battle of Lepanto were issues plaguing the city at the time. Landmarks visible on the work include St. Mark's Basilica and the Doge's palace (both labeled *Palatium*), and the Rialto bridge is discernable.

This Latin-language example has a description outlining the layout of the city, describing access from the lagoon to the mainland as well as to the Mediterranean. The note goes on to describe the inhabitation of islands around the city, the various monasteries, as well as the arsenal and defense capabilities of the city. A special mention of the island of Moura (today Murano) and the beautiful glassworks it produces, an industry still associated with the island.

Detailed Condition:

Margin extended along left and right, barely touching neatline at right edge.