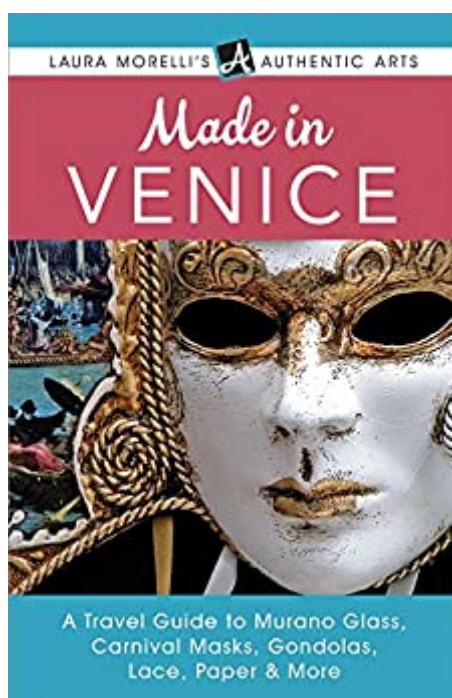


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# Made In Venice: A Travel Guide To Murano Glass, Carnival Masks, Gondolas, Lace, Paper, & More (Laura Morelli's Authentic Arts)



## Synopsis

Follow the link inside this book to get a free copy of the companion guide, Laura Morelli's *Artisans of Venice*. Going to Venice, Italy? Don't buy anything in Venice until you read this book! If you're traveling to Venice, Italy, you want to go home with a special souvenir: a piece of Murano glass, a work of Burano lace, a carnival mask, or one of the city's famous luxury fabrics. But selecting which mask or which goblet to buy can be an intimidating experience. How do you know if you're buying something authentic, something made in Venice, something made in a traditional way? How do you determine if you've fallen prey to one of the city's many tourist traps? *Buyer Beware: Venice is full of tourist traps and mass-produced souvenirs passed off as authentic. Do you know how to tell the treasures from the trash? In Venice, it's not easy to tell the treasures from the trash. This is true now more than ever before, as increasing numbers of carnival masks, glass, and other souvenirs flood into Venice, imported from overseas and passed off as authentic. There is no substitute for an educated buyer. Laura Morelli leads you to the city's most authentic arts--the centuries-old trades of mask making, glass blowing, wood turning, silk spinning, and other traditions. Wouldn't you rather support authentic Venetian master artisans than importers looking to turn a quick profit without any connection to Venice at all?* Venice boasts some of the most famous artistic traditions in the world. Here's what you need to know about them. Laura Morelli leads you beyond the souvenir shops for an immersive cultural experience that you won't find in any other guidebook. This indispensable guide includes practical tips for locating the most authentic goods in one of the busiest tourist destinations in the world. Packed with useful information on pricing, quality, and value, and with a comprehensive resource guide, Laura Morelli's *Authentic Arts: Venice* is the perfect guide for anyone wanting to bring home the unique traditions of La Serenissima. *Artisans of Venice* is the companion to this book, bringing you inside the workshops of several dozen of the most accomplished makers of Venetian fabrics, Murano glass and millefiori, carnival masks and masquerade costumes, gondolas, Burano lace, mirrors, marbled paper, hand-carved frames, and other treasures. Put both books together and you'll be the most knowledgeable traveler in Venice!

"Laura Morelli has set out to make you an expert in handmade crafts." --American Style Magazine

Laura Morelli, an art historian and trusted guide in the world of cultural travel and authentic shopping, leads you to the best of Venice's most traditional arts. Laura Morelli's *Authentic Arts* series is the only travel guide series on the market that takes you beyond the museums and tourist traps to make you an educated buyer--maybe even a connoisseur--of Florentine leather, ceramics of the Amalfi Coast, Parisian hats, Venetian glass, the handmade quilts of Provence, and more treasures. If you're using a standard guidebook by Frommers, Fodors, Rick Steves, Lonely

Planet, or others, be sure to also bring Laura Morelli's guides to Venice with you. You'll be sure to come home with the best of Venice in your suitcase! Follow the link inside this book to get a free copy of the companion guide, Laura Morelli's Artisans of Venice Scroll up and grab a copy today!

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I highly recommend Laura Morelli's Venice book. We are currently planning our trip to Venice later this year and have repeatedly read about all of the fake and cheap goods that are being passed off as authentic Venetian products, especially the Murano glass. This seems to be the only book on the market that provides this valuable information. As an art historian, Laura provides fascinating perspective of a variety of Venetian products, not only giving a great history but how to best shop for a prized gift from a trip to Venice. Laura's website is also helpful and she provides up to date information on stores and artisans. Her supplemental offering, "Artisans of Venice: Where to Buy Authentic Venetian Fabrics, Murano Glass & Millefiori, Carnival Masks, Gondolas, Lace, Mirrors, Masquerade Costumes, Paper ... Artisans" gives more details on where to actual buy the best products. We feel armed with all of this information, we will have a much better trip, making sure we bring home a treasure that is authentic and knowing we were not ripped off!

A very insightful book about navigating around Venice, while shopping. I just hope it is still current when I visit in June.

I truly feel bad when I feel the need to give the rare bad review, but this book was ridiculous. Here's an example of the great advice to learn about Venetian art: 'Go online and read up!' No joke. And THERE'S NO LIST of SHOPS, only gives a web link to see one! No joke. I want a guide that I can take and refer to as I'm shopping. It was worthless.

Great book. Used in Venice last month and met some of the artisans.

Book Description: Every traveler to Venice wants to go home with a special souvenir---a carnival mask, a work of Murano glass, a handcrafted piece of lace. But selecting which mask or which goblet to buy can be an intimidating experience. How do you know if you're buying something authentic, something made in Venice, something made in a traditional way? How do you gauge how much you should pay, and how do you know if you're being ripped off? How do you determine if you've fallen prey to one of the city's many tourist traps? An essential guide for anyone planning a trip. Part history/cultural lesson and part guide book, it's small enough to take with you when on the go. Morelli is an art historian and writer. Her works on authentic travel have appeared in national magazines and newspapers. She has also taught art history at several colleges and universities both in the States and in Rome. She obviously knows her stuff. This invaluable guide is the first of what will be eight or more guidebooks in her new Authentic Arts Series. Her focus with Venice is to guide travelers clear of the typical tourist traps. Explore the authenticity of Venice with its handmade and local authentic items. Experience cultural immersion thru a deeper appreciation and understanding of its cultural arts. Morelli instructs and warns the reader on recognizing quality and value in making smart choices with her five question rule. Is it traditional and locally made? Who made it? Who's selling it? How much should I pay? How will I get it home? She does all this all while still allowing the reader to experience the opulence of Venetian style. She explains the living traditions of Venice thru its culture, generations old stories, its people and artisans. Chapters are divided into: How to shop in Venice, Murano Glass, Gondolas, Lace, Masks, Paper & Books, and Resources. Excellent tips for finding your way with regards to the confusing and unique address system in Venice. Suggests where specifically to purchase such items as masks, Murano glass, Burano lace, etc. Explains where not to purchase items and what to avoid. The added photos and Resources section in the back of the book is most valuable. Looking

forward to traveling thru Italy with the Authentic Arts Series!

I had the recent pleasure of reading and reviewing *The Gondola Maker*, by Laura Morelli. Her book is an enjoyable way to immerse yourself in the past culture of Venice and Italian arts. In addition to writing this historical fiction novel, Ms. Morelli has a series of travel books about Italy. They're full of interesting facts, insider tidbits, and fabulous photography. *Venice: A Travel Guide to Murano Glass, Carnival Masks, Gondolas, Lace, Paper, & More* is a handy guide to everything a shopper and traveler needs to know while visiting this city on the water. It's divided into sections by topic, and begins with a chapter teaching the reader how to shop in Venice. How does one know if a piece of art is authentic, and what is a fair price for various items? What questions should one ask an artisan before purchasing their wares, and what is the best way to send the new treasures home? In addition to answering these typical questions that might arise during a Venetian shopping trip, the author gives a short art history lesson about each of the topics. For example, in the chapter on Murano lace, there is information about sixteenth century lace pattern books, and historical designs. She even goes as far as describing how the lace is made. I found the chapter on masks fascinating, especially the section on a particular style worn by the Plague Doctor, or *medico della peste*. My favorite chapter is the one on paper and bookmaking, in which the author writes about the techniques used to produce marbelized paper and customized bindings. She even suggests taking a small class with an artisanal bookmaker if you wish to delve deeper into this topic. I think that's something I'll have to add to my bucket list. In addition to her marvelous books, Laura Morelli has an art history blog that I highly recommend. Her articles are short and interesting anecdotes covering all sorts of things you may or may not find in her books. Reading her books and following her blog will make you feel like an expert in Italian arts.

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