


NAXOS
AudioBooks

NON-
FICTION

Jan Morris
Venice

Read by **Sebastian Comberti**



NAX27112D

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2	Venice by Jan Morris read by Sebastian Comberti	5:08
3	The estuaries of three virile rivers first formed...	5:17
4	The People – Chapter 1: Islanders	7:49
5	She was never loved.	6:14
6	Chapter 2: The Venetian Way	6:23
7	The Venetian custom is the criterion of good sense...	6:39
8	This self esteem makes for narrow horizons and short focuses.	6:55
9	Chapter 3: Strong Men	6:11
10	They are sharp businessmen still.	5:39
11	The Republic was sustained, too...	8:44
12	Under the Republic none of these working men had any share...	5:37
13	At the other end of the scale there remain the aristocrats...	7:25
14	The patrician was not allowed to refuse an appointment...	8:22
15	Chapter 4: The Truth Not to Everyone	6:37
16	More casual pilferers haunt the water-buses...	7:23
17	He might also represent the Venetian Nosey Parker...	4:06
18	Chapter 5: On Women	6:08
19	Other classes of Venetian women were not so sheltered...	7:12
20	Chapter 6: Minor Venetians	5:11

21	Even more, I sometimes think, do the Venetians love...	4:49
22	One Venetian cat became an international celebrity.	4:21
23	There used to be many horses and mules in Venice...	6:52
24	There are many dogs in Venice.	6:56
25	Chapter 7: Pageantries and Panaceas	2:26
26	The most memorable of all such galas was arranged...	4:10
27	Venice is not quite so sumptuous nowadays...	7:29
28	Half a century later another Patriarch of Venice became Pope...	7:29
29	Venice used to be a great place for love potions...	6:36
30	Chapter 8: Poi Christiani	5:47
31	'Are you a Venetian?' I once asked a saintly Dominican...	7:41
32	Today the worst is probably over.	6:34
33	If the Venetians are not always devout, they are usually kind.	5:56
34	There is a trace of the morbid to this soft-heartedness.	6:10
35	Chapter 9: Minorities	8:53
36	At the other end of the city...	7:17
37	For a taste of Venetian Englishry...	5:04
38	Chapter 10: Melancholia	7:01
39	No wonder Napoleon swept her aside.	6:08
40	Since then she has been a port, an art centre...	7:33

41	The City – Chapter 11: Ex Island	6:45
42	Away to the west, beyond the railway station...	7:13
43	Chapter 12: Streets Full of Water	6:31
44	The canals, some of which have ninth-century origins...	5:03
45	A wonderful variety of boats has been developed...	5:45
46	The water transport of Venice is easy-going...	6:09
47	Different indeed is the character of the gondola...	6:56
48	A gondola is very expensive to build...	7:33
49	Chapter 13: Stones of Venice	6:33
50	The lanes are often beguilingly unpredictable...	2:41
51	Long centuries ago the Venetians, looking around them...	7:27
52	Many stories testify to the pride...	6:10
53	Do not think, either, that Venice has no gardens.	5:31
54	The early Venetian bridges were used by horses and mules...	7:09
55	Chapter 14: City Services	5:51
56	There are a few traffic notices in Venice...	8:43
57	Everybody dies in Venice.	6:45
58	Marvellously evocative is a winter funeral in Venice.	6:16
59	The marble-workers who erect the fancy mausoleums...	5:48
60	Chapter 15: Age	6:20

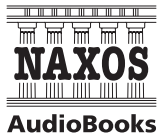
61	When the most famous of them all fell down...	5:22
62	In a matter of moments it was all over...	4:56
63	Today many a campanile is supported...	7:48
64	Chapter 16: The Bestiary	4:22
65	An altogether different, gentler kind of derangement...	8:57
66	Bestial, too, were the men of Venice...	7:56
67	Venice scarcely needs fables to strengthen her strain...	4:47
68	On San Michele is buried the French painter Leopold Robert...	5:36
69	Chapter 17: Arabesques	6:42
70	More often, though, the allusions of Venice are arabesque...	7:38
71	In Venice you can enjoy the pleasures of the Orient...	7:11
72	Venice is no longer the supreme city of music...	5:16
73	There is no drink that feels organic to Venice...	6:41
74	Chapter 18: The Seasons	5:58
75	All is dank, swirling, desolate.	4:23
76	And then one morning the spring arrives.	6:41
77	With a thud, a babble of voices and a crinkle...	6:42
78	Confronted by these multitudes...	5:35
79	But though crowds do not suit some parts of the city...	5:54
70	Chapter 19: New on the Rialto	5:42

71	In its great centuries Venice was more than a mere spectacle...	5:06
72	Above the stalls of San Giacomo...	4:52
73	Chapter 20: Curiosities	6:06
74	Venice is thickly encrusted with the stranger ornaments...	7:02
75	Venetian art, too, is rich in curiosities.	6:36
76	In the adjacent picture, another naval battle...	4:57
77	Then there are the curiosities of politics and diplomacy.	6:55
78	Other nooks of Venetian oddity are almost out of range...	2:58
79	A pair of baby seagulls, perhaps, lives beneath the poop...	2:34
80	Chapter 21: To the Prodigies	7:10
81	Consider next the southern ward of Dorsoduro...	5:58
82	But when all is said, and nearly all is done...	5:43
83	No two churches are starker, pinker, loftier...	5:44
84	Chapter 22: Purposes	8:55
85	The prime advantages of Venice lie, as both sides agree...	5:54
86	The Lagoon – Chapter 23: Seventh Sea	7:17
87	Thus the lagoon is partly an artificial phenomenon...	5:43
88	Chapter 24: The Office of a Moat	7:53
89	It was eight centuries before the next enemy set foot...	6:49
90	Thus the city has been spared the worst of war...	9:04

91	Out beside the great sea-gates...	3:11
92	Chapter 25: Navigation	6:01
93	Like the canals of the city, the navigational channels...	5:12
94	Another new canal, to the north of Venice...	3:55
95	Chapter 26: On the Edge	7:30
96	Progress, though, has recently struck Cavallino...	6:56
97	Chapter 27: Island Towns	7:18
98	Certainly it is a building of symbolic significance...	5:51
99	Many other islands of the lagoon have had their eras...	6:23
100	Very different is the spirit of Murano...	5:20
101	All this is a pity...	6:36
102	Chapter 28: Holy Waters	6:01
103	In the museum upstairs there is a fine Egyptian mummy...	6:27
104	San Lazzaro is always on the move.	5:08
105	Chapter 29: Dead and Alive	6:29
106	Other inshore islands are less haunted...	8:04
107	Mazzorbo is a backwater of quite another kind.	7:12
108	Chapter 30: The Sacred Bulwarks	5:21
109	Beside the porto, and visible far out to sea...	4:24
110	Among these old and mellowed things...	6:10

111	The gusto of the Lido fades as you sail southwards...	5:07
112	Chapter 31: Lost	8:24
113	Embarkation	4:53
114	All this strikes me as odd...	7:21
115	It is partly a matter of texture.	4:31

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In this fascinating book Jan Morris brings to life Venice's unique history.



Jan Morris was born in 1926 of a Welsh father and an English mother, and educated at Lancing and Christ Church, Oxford. After military service during World War 2 (which first took her to Venice) she spent 10 years as a foreign correspondent for *The Times* and *The Guardian*, before becoming a full-time writer in the 1960s. Since then she has written some 40 books of history, travel, biography and fiction. She lives at the top left corner of Wales.



Sebastian Comberti was born in London of Italian/German parents. As a professional cellist of many years, he performs with many of London's chamber orchestras and is active as a recitalist and chamber player. In 2001 he founded the Cello Classics recording label which has won international acclaim for its innovative programming. He has also worked as a voice-over artist, with roles including 'lost boy' in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* and 'lost cellist' in *The Madness of King George*. He has also read *Discover Music of the Baroque Era* for Naxos AudioBooks.

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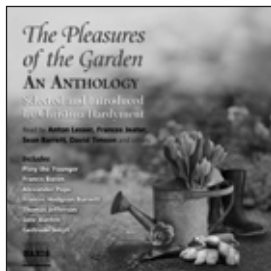
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Jan Morris

Venice

Read by **Sebastian Comberti**

'The best book about Venice ever written.' *SUNDAY TIMES*

Venice stands, as she loves to tell you, on the frontiers of the east and west, half-way between the setting and the rising sun. Goethe calls her 'the market-place of the Morning and the Evening lands'. Certainly no city on earth gives a more immediate impression of symmetry and unity, or seems more patently born to greatness.

So Jan Morris remarks, with graceful literary distinction, on the qualities that have made Venice a unique place among the world's great destinations. She has known it intimately for over six decades. She knows its history, its carvings, its idiosyncrasies, its weather and all the Doges of the past. She returns even now, never tiring of this 'dappled city, tremulous and flickering'. She first wrote *Venice* in praise of it 50 years ago and has revised the book three times. To open this premiere audiobook recording, Jan Morris reads a personal introduction which perfectly distils a lifetime's fascination with *La Serenissima*.



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