



## Marco Polo: A Boy in 13<sup>th</sup> Century Venice

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Review these maps of Italy and Venice in order to answer the following questions.

Find Italy, then find Venice on this map of [Europe](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/europe/europe_ref01.jpg) [[http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/europe/europe\\_ref01.jpg](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/europe/europe_ref01.jpg)].

Find Venice on this [Map of Italy](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/cia02/italy_sm02.gif) [[http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/cia02/italy\\_sm02.gif](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/cia02/italy_sm02.gif)].

Use the [Map Machine](http://plasma.nationalgeographic.com/mapmachine/) to find Venice. Type *Venice*; then select *Venice, Italy* from the drop-down box and click on it. [<http://plasma.nationalgeographic.com/mapmachine/>]

Zoom in on Venice using [an interactive map of Venice](http://encarta.msn.com/encnet/features/mapcenter/map.aspx?refid=701517370). [<http://encarta.msn.com/encnet/features/mapcenter/map.aspx?refid=701517370>]

Panoramic videos of Venice can be viewed at [Venice, Multi-Media](http://encarta.msn.com/media_701765786/Venice_Italy.html) [[http://encarta.msn.com/media\\_701765786/Venice\\_Italy.html](http://encarta.msn.com/media_701765786/Venice_Italy.html)].

[Virtual History of Venice](http://www.boglewood.com/timeline/) at [<http://www.boglewood.com/timeline/>].

### Questions:

1. What do you notice about the location of Venice that might make someone consider traveling to other places?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What information about Marco's family life suggests that he would want to travel?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What sights, sounds, and smells might have interested Marco while he worked in a spice shop overlooking Venice's harbor?

Use the following chart to take notes about 13<sup>th</sup> Century Venice. Fill in the information that you discovered from websites and from your teacher. These additional websites will help you discover more about Venice's role as a center of trade:

[Medieval Trade Routes](http://www.ucalgary.ca/HIST/tutor/imagemid/hanseatic.gif) [<http://www.ucalgary.ca/HIST/tutor/imagemid/hanseatic.gif>]

[Rialto](http://www.doge.it/storia/storia4i.htm) [<http://www.doge.it/storia/storia4i.htm>]

Feature of 13 <sup>th</sup> Century Venice	Notes
Geographical features of the city and region	
Main forms of transportation	
Important products in the city	
Other notes	

**Final Exercise:** Pretend that you are a travel agent in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. You want to tell potential visitors how wonderful Venice is. Design a travel brochure, advertising with words and pictures the wonders of 13<sup>th</sup> century Venice.