

[PDF] City Of Fortune: How Venice Ruled The Seas

Roger Crowley - pdf download free book

Books Details:

Title: City of Fortune: How Venice R

Author: Roger Crowley

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Description:

From Crowley's popular histories—this is his fourth—pivot around power politics of the Mediterranean Sea, circa 1453 (2005). Venice is the player this lively narrative focuses on, specifically during the three centuries, from 1200 to 1500, in which it was at the apex of its sway over maritime trade. Accenting the city-state's mercantile spirit, Crowley supports his narrative of the period's numerous naval wars with explanations of the commerce they were fought to command. Acquiring an imperial archipelago in the process of serving as spice broker between Europe and Asia, Venice reached around Greece to Constantinople and as far as southern Russia. Anchored by fortresses, linked by galleys, Venice's commercial empire faced challenges from Mongols, Genoa, and Ottoman Turks, and the diplomatic and military means by which Venice addressed those threats provide the most vivid passages and personalities in Crowley's account. Had Vittorio Pisano not

defeated Genoa in 1380, Venice might not be the tourist attraction of today. A deft writer, Crowley renders the Venetian part in late medieval times interesting indeed to history buffs. --Gilbert Taylor

Review Praise for *City of Fortune*

"Crowley...writes with a racy briskness that lifts sea battles and sieges off the page, so much so that at times his sentences seem in danger of bursting their seams" — *New York Times Book Review*

"Roger Crowley chronicles the peak of Venice's past glory with Wordsworthian sympathy, supplemented by impressive learning and infectious enthusiasm." — *Wall Street Journal*

'Venice receives a stirring account from British historian Crowley...An action-packed political and military history.'" — *Kirkus Reviews*

Praise for Roger Crowley's *Empires of the Sea*

"Crowley has an astonishing gift for narration; his account is as exciting as any thriller."—John Julius Norwich, *The Wall Street Journal*

"Crowley's page-turner history . . . deserves to be this [season's] most recommended nonfiction book. . . . Rich in character, action, surprise, what transpired in those few desperate weeks is one of history's best and most thrilling stories."—*The Dallas Morning News*

"[Crowley] offers exquisitely delicate insights and undulating descriptive passages. Yet in his descriptions of the battles, his prose is so taut and tense, it is impossible not to be caught up in the harrowing action."—*The Christian Science Monitor*

"A masterly narrative that captures the religious fervor, brutality and mayhem of this intensive contest."—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

"Gripping . . . This is a rare combination of a history book that reads with the detail, insight and pace of a novel."—*The Tampa Tribune*

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