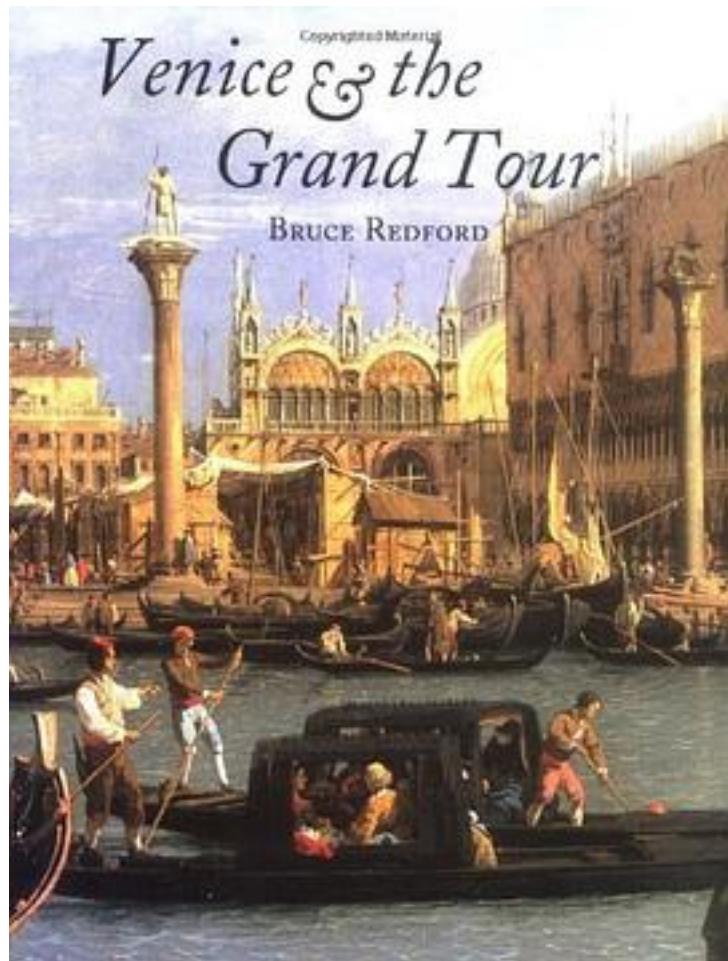


# Venice and the Grand Tour, 1670-1830



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For well over a century, the Grand Tour of France and Italy - which included a stay in Venice - served as the ultimate in finishing schools for the young male elite of Great Britain. This book explores Venice's hold on the imagination of the Grand Tourist and

connects the ideology of the Tour to the mythology of Venice. According to Bruce Redford, the Tour offered a combination of aesthetic, social political and sexual experience, and it provided its alumni with a life-long source of cultural and political authority. Yet from the beginning the Tour was also viewed with deep suspicion: it was feared that the very experiences that completed the British gentleman might well undo him. The aspiration and ambivalence that characterise the Tour attached themselves most powerfully to the time spent in Venice. Drawing on a wide range of materials - from guide-books to portraits, satirical poems to garden pavilions - Redford investigates Venice's power of attraction for the English and shows that it was a source of many echoes and metaphors of England's own cultural, political, and geo-graphical situation.

作者介绍:

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