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## Moderna Europae Descriptio (First Map of the Continent of Europe!)

**Stock#:** 48632  
**Map Maker:** Munster  
**Date:** 1550 circa  
**Place:** Basle  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 13.5 x 10 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### Description:

Nice full color example of the first printed map of the continent of Europe, from Munster's *Geographia*.

Includes a sailing ship off the coast of Spain. The map is oriented with south at the top.

Munster's *Geographia* was a cartographic landmark, including not only Ptolemaic maps, but also a number of landmark modern maps, including the first separate maps of the 4 continents, the first map of England, and the earliest obtainable map of Scandinavia. Munster dominated cartographic publication during the mid-16th century. Munster is generally regarded as one of the most important map makers of the 16th century.

Sebastien Munster was a linguist and mathematician, who initially taught Hebrew in Heidelberg. He issued his first mapping of Germany in 1529, after which he issued a call for geographical information about Germany to scholars throughout the country. The response was better than hoped for, and included substantial foreign material, which supplied him with up to date, if not necessarily accurate maps for the issuance of his *Geographia* in 1540.

### Detailed Condition:

Minor marginal soiling.