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Vilna Litvaniae Metropolis

Stock#: 68377
Map Maker: Braun & Hogenberg
Date: 1581
Place: Frankfurt
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 20 x 14.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine example of Braun & Hogenberg's view of Vilna in Lithuania, from Braun & Hogenberg's *Civitates Orbis Terrarum*, the most famous and influential book of town plans published in the 16th Century.

Striking view of Vilna, illustrating its strategic location on the Wilde River, an important crossing on the ancient east-west trade route. The large warehouse complex with numerous haus is located along the river reflecting the city's importance within the Hanseatic League. Among the mostly wooden buildings, are the masonry Ancient Castle (#1 on the key), Imperial Palace (#3), Stanislas Cathedral (#4), St. John's Cathedral (#14), and the Gothic Churches of St. Anna and St. Bernard (#12). The city is completely enclosed within heavily fortified masonry walls.

The view is taken from a drawing by Flemish artist, Guillebert de Lannoy, who visited the city in 1414. Much of the city had been rebuilt in stone and brick by the time this view was first published in 1581 in the *Civitates orbis terrarum*.

Detailed Condition: