PACK YOUR BAGS - WE'RE GOING TO VENICE!
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After a vacation (kind of), Nancy Drew(R) is ready for her next case! It's time to hop on a plane and head to Italy in *The Phantom of Venice*! The Guardia di Finanza (Italian police) have hired Nancy to spy on suspect in a recent rash of thefts. View the trailer

Now, a smart sleuth always does some research before starting a case, so here are some facts about Venice, a city known for its canals, historic buildings, and Carnival.

THE CANALS
Venice is actually built on 116 tiny islands and connected by 409 bridges; the canals are its roads. You must travel by foot, vaporetto (motorized waterboat), or gondola. Although most locals travel by vaporetto since it's the quickest form of transportation, tourists who want to experience the romance of Venice should ride a gondola as the gondolier serenades them with barcarola, folk songs that have the same rhythm as a gondolier's stroke.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS
At the very heart of the city is the Piazza San Marco (St. Mark's Square) - a place where tourists, city officials, and pigeons gather. St. Marc's Basilica, the Clock Tower, and the Grand Canal are just some of the structures lining the square. Visit the Campo San Polo, the second largest square, for concerts and Carnival events. And don’t forget the Ponte di Rialto (Rialto Bridge), the oldest and most famous bridge in the city.

CARNIVAL OF VENICE
People from all over the world come to Venice to celebrate the beginning of Lent. Revelers originally wore masks and elaborate costumes so commoners and nobility could party together, and the tradition continues today, even though class is no longer an issue. Masked balls, parades, plays, concerts, and street performances are held all day and all night, providing entertainment and fun for everyone who comes to celebrate!

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Check the 'Dare to Play’ blog for more information about *The Phantom of Venice* and behind-the-scenes information. If you haven't played *Legend of the Crystal Skull* and *The White Wolf of Icicle Creek* yet, order online at www.HerInteractive.com or look for the games in all major retailers.

Dare to Play™

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