



than children's books, it has readings and mini-courses in fine arts and theatre. Most things are in Italian, but there are also books in English. **Map p. 112, 3B**

## GLASS

What to look for in Murano glass? The answer is as various as the styles Murano glassmasters have used through history. A visit to the Museo dell' Arte Vetraria (see p. 129) is a good place to start for a look at the traditional glassmaking methods, which range from clear cristallino glass to white lattimo and up to brilliant polychrome chalcedony. Moving forward, contemporary innovation has seen glassmakers pairing up with young and established artists to create sleek, modern designs as well as elegant, design-conscious stemware and vases. It's well worth it to take time to visit a workshop's furnace on your way to the showroom, as part of the fascination of glassmaking is to see a flowing, molten globule of glass stretched and formed into an elegant bubble, then harden into its final, crystalline form.

**Barovier & Toso** Murano Fondamenta Vetrai 28. Barovier is the most famous name in Murano glass, and the family has an impressive pedigree: Angelo Barovier (1405-1460) is considered the father of clear, or cristallino, glass. Now the workshop makes fabulous traditional glass but is especially known for contemporary glass, though created by a company established in 1295. **Map p. 128, 2C**

**Bisanzio** Murano, Calle Paradiso 22. This firm, established in 1816, offers traditional and contemporary glass vases, plates, sculptures, chandeliers and other designs. Like many workshops, it allows visitors to watch the craftsmen at work. **Map p. 128, 3C**

**C.A.M.** Murano, Piazzale alla Colonna 1. A good place for mirrors and objets d'art, or for demonstrations of traditional chandelier-making techniques offered in the adjoining workshop. **Map p. 128, 1C**

**Cesare Toffolo** Murano, Bressaglio 8A and Fondamenta Manin 75. Cesare Toffolo is another glass master from a glass family—at fifteen he learned the art from his father, who had learned from

**Opposite: Glass from the Salviati Collection**

