

SA1102478

Ottoman Miquelet, Rat Tailed
Belt Pistol. Early 19th Century,
Balkan Embossed Brass Clad,
"Pirate" Pistol - circa 1805

Price

GBP 1,250

| USD \$1,692 | EUR 1,463

Item Reference: SA1102478**Date of manufacture: 1800**

Description

The 20 bore Ottoman, Miquelet Lock pistol has a 10½ ins barrel, and is full stocked. It has a single band round barrel with a decorative oval. The pistol has a steel lock with a full brass engraved and decorated stock, which is mother-of-pearl mounted with a rat tail. These were often referred to as Miquelet "Rat Tail" Pistols because of the shape of the stock. These were the traditional muzzle loading pistol of the Balkans and Greece in the early to mid 1800s. Designed to be worn in a sash around one's waist, the weapon is very streamlined in appearance. The stock on this example is almost entirely clad in lovely embossed and engraved sheet brass. The Miquelet ignition system is a hangover from High Quality Italian pistols of the 17th and early 18th centuries. This is a particularly nice example retaining its brass cladding. Faux ramrod under the barrel. At sea the ramrod was usually carried on a strap around the neck. The engraved and embossed designs are excellent. Unlike most miquelets we see, the lock on this example is still functional but weak. It is a bit finicky, and sometimes hangs at half cock, but usually we can't even get these to move, making this a ra...

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