

SA1174697

Late 19th century hand carved
hardwood African Bamileke
ceremonial bed (or ideal as a
large coffee table)

Price

GBP 8,500

| USD \$11,502 | EUR 9,946

Item Reference: SA1174697

Date of manufacture: 1900

Dimensions

Height = 47 cm (18.5")

Width = 211 cm (83.1")

Depth = 64.8 cm (25.5")

Description

A late 19th century (circa 1900) hand carved hardwood African Bamileke ceremonial bed (or ideal as a large coffee table). This wonderful carved Bamileke bed is handmade from a single hollowed out hardwood tree trunk and consists of a pierced lattice headrest with carved small face decoration above with a further carved border of small faces and five carved stylised figures above. The bed with wonderful dry patina, the foot of the bed with carved decoration with a border of carved small faces around the sides and foot of the bed. The sides profusely carved and pierced with faces and stylised figures with a border of small faces to the base, the faces and figures symbolising ancestors, warriors and spirits. The ceremonial bed of a Bamileke King or Chief was a sacred and spiritual place where the King would receive spiritual direction and sometimes visions from his ancestors. The Bamileke are the largest ethnic group in the Cameroon and inhabit the West and North West region of the Country, traditionally farmers growing crops, they are also known for their entrepreneurial skills and for their rich cultural traditions including intricate artworks, elaborate ceremonies...

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