

SA1190746

Ottoman, Balkan Decorated Flintlock frontier Musket / Carbine, Balkans, c.1780–1810

Price

GBP 1,550

| USD \$2,093 | EUR 1,813

Item Reference: SA1190746**Date of manufacture: 18th Century**

Description

A genuine and highly decorative Balkan flintlock musket (short musket / carbine), dating from the late 18th to early 19th century, produced in the Ottoman Balkan regions, most likely Bosnia, Serbia, or Montenegro. The musket is fitted with a European flintlock mechanism, probably of Italian or Austrian origin, mounted into a locally made stock. The lock, tang, and adjacent steel surfaces are finely engraved with flowing foliate scrollwork arranged in segmented panels, a distinctive feature of Balkan frontier arms. The butt is sheathed in engraved brass, pinned in place and decorated with concentric ring punchwork and scrolling motifs, typical of Bosnian and neighbouring regional work. The barrel bears a worn inscription in Latin characters, believed to represent a South-Slavic personal or devotional phrase rather than a maker's name, together with a small triangular stamp consistent with a provincial Balkan workshop or proof mark. Such muskets were carried by irregular troops and local militias in the Ottoman Balkans, combining imported European technology with strong regional decorative traditions. Condition Good honest condition for type age, with The flintlock mechan...

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