

SA1193294

Frederick Waters Watts, The Menai Strait - Antique Oil Painting

Price

GBP 2,800

| USD \$3,789 | EUR 3,276

Item Reference: SA1193294

Date of manufacture: 1850

Dimensions

Height = 53 cm (20.9")

Width = 74 cm (29.1")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

This picturesque mid-19th-century oil painting by English artist Frederick Waters Watts (1801-1870) depicts the Menai Strait in North Wales. It presents a sweeping view along the strait, with the curving shoreline, distant sailing vessels, and a hill-top structure anchoring the expansive scene beyond. The deft composition draws us gently forward along the stone roadway in the foreground, where a lone rider moves quietly away, accompanied by baskets resting beside the parapet. The river opens gradually to the right, while the sky lifts softly in pale blues and drifting clouds. There's no sense of urgency here, only movement - a feeling of travel itself rather than destination. Watts handles perspective with notable assurance, allowing the eye to move naturally through this scene rather than directing it via rigid structure. The shoreline buildings are delicately modulated in tone, each receding form softened by atmosphere rather than line, creating a convincing sense of spatial depth. Particularly effective is the distant hill-top structure, which acts as a quiet visual anchor, stabilising the composition and preventing the open water from overwhelming the view. Watts ...

Internal Ref: BRV2254

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