

SA1215065

Japanese Imari Porcelain Sugar Bowl with Samurai, Fukagawa Mark, circa 1870–1880

Price

GBP 350

| USD \$474 | EUR 410

Item Reference: SA1215065**Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 18 cm (7.1")

Width = 18.5 cm (7.3")

Depth = 13 cm (5.1")

Description

A rare Japanese Imari porcelain sugar bowl and cover produced in Arita during the early Meiji period, circa 1870–1880. The piece belongs to the Hichozan Fukagawa group associated with the workshop of Eizaemon Fukagawa, one of the most important early exporters of Japanese porcelain to Western markets. The form reflects European tea-drinking customs, with three feet, large scroll handles and a domed cover. The decoration combines cobalt blue, iron-red enamels, green highlights and gilding in the traditional Ko-Imari export palette. Applied gilt leaves around the handles and the pointed gilded finial create a rich sculptural effect. A finely painted samurai warrior appears within the central shield-shaped reserve, surrounded by geometric ornament and floral scrollwork. Chrysanthemums and peonies symbolise nobility and longevity. A small asymmetrical bird painted on the cover adds an elegant Japanese decorative detail. The underside bears the rare iron-red mark “Hichozan Fukagawa sei”, associated with early Fukagawa export porcelain before the establishment of Fukagawa Seiji in 1894. Koransha, founded by Eizaemon Fukagawa in 1875, later achieved international success at t...

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Seller Details

Ritas Bazaar

Hertfordshire United Kingdom



Tel: 07434 626011

International Tel: +44 7434 626011