Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

Chinese Blue and White Porcelain Teapot, Early 19th Century

£285

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REF: 5712

Height: 10 cm (3.9")

Diameter: 13 cm (5.1")

Description

A charming Chinese blue and white porcelain teapot, dating from the first half of the 19th century. Elegant in form and richly decorative, it is finely painted in cobalt blue against a soft white ground, its hand-painted ornament displaying the freshness and spontaneity that make Chinese export and domestic porcelain of this period so enduringly appealing.

The compact teapot has a pleasing rounded body, shaped spout, and fitted cover, with a metal handle providing a handsome contrast to the porcelain. The combination of blue and white porcelain with metal fittings gives the piece an especially characterful presence, while its practical form speaks to the central role of tea drinking in both Chinese life and the wider 19th-century market for Asian ceramics.

Blue and white porcelain has long been admired for its clarity, versatility, and decorative power. In this example, the deep cobalt painting brings animation and depth to the surface, while the restrained palette allows the shape and painted decoration to take centre stage. The result is a piece that is at once functional, decorative, and evocative of the long history of Chinese tea culture.

A lovely object for use or display, this teapot would sit beautifully within a collection of Chinese porcelain, blue and white ceramics, tea wares, or 19th-century decorative arts. It would also make a distinctive addition to a table setting, kitchen display, or cabinet of curiosities.

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