

Chinese export famille vert fish bowl

£395



REF: 7027

Height: 42 cm (16.5")

Diameter: 50 cm (19.7")

## Description

A large Chinese export famille vert fish bowl depicting koi and auspicious symbols, circa 1900.

Chinese fish bowls, often called "fish jars" or "goldfish bowls," are large, ornately decorated porcelain vessels traditionally used for keeping koi or goldfish. Originating during the Ming Dynasty, these bowls were prized for both their function and artistry.

Typically crafted from high-fired porcelain, they feature vibrant hand-painted motifs such as dragons, lotus flowers, or landscapes symbolising prosperity and harmony. While practical for holding water and fish, they were equally valued as decorative garden or courtyard features, sometimes used for planting instead.

Today, antique Chinese fish bowls are highly collectible, admired for their craftsmanship, cultural symbolism, and timeless aesthetic appeal.