

Monumental 16th century marble mortar

£1,200



REF: 6815

Height: 27 cm (10.6")

Width: 66 cm (26")

Depth: 51 cm (20.1")

Description

A monumental 16th century carved marble mortar. Perfectly weathered and repaired.

Note that this item is very heavy and will require specialist shipping. Please enquire for a quotation.

Country houses in the 16th century often featured large marble mortars as essential tools in their kitchens. These heavy, durable vessels were used for grinding herbs, spices, and medicinal ingredients. Crafted from fine marble, they combined functionality with aesthetic appeal, often showcasing skilled craftsmanship and ornate detailing.

In wealthy estates, mortars symbolised status, reflecting the household's access to luxury goods and sophisticated culinary or medical practices. Their presence in such homes reveals the importance of self-sufficiency and herbal knowledge during the era. Today, surviving marble mortars are valued as historical artefacts and decorative antiques with rich cultural significance.