



Fossil Turtle Skull - Terminal Cretaceous (maastrichtian)



450 EUR

Period : 16th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Stone

Length : 10,5 cm

Width : 9 cm

Height : 5,5 cm

Description

Authentic and rare fossil turtle skull aff. to the extinct genus *Bothremys*. Crane with its mandible.

The geological layers from which this fossil comes are dated from the Maastrichtian, last stage of the Cretaceous.

Approximately -72 to -66 million years ago.

Origin: Oued Zem (Morocco)

High quality preparation: The mandible is replaced after preparation of the fossil, the dislocation of the bones being almost inevitable during decomposition and fossilization. A fossil organism (even an isolated skull) is never 100% complete, taking into account the degradation of the bones (extremities or porous bodies) during

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possible transport (fossilization necessarily takes place in submerged sedimentary layers) and bias of fossilization. Here the skull is estimated to be complete at more than 90% of its volume. The rare gaps are vestiges of the surrounding sandstone gangue visible on the mandible.

Length 10.5 cm / maximum width 9 / Height 5.5 cm

The genus affiliated with this fossil is now extinct. The fossil remains of this species are not subject to some protection regulations (non-CITES species). From a large French collection. This fossil is a very beautiful naturalist collector's item.

(Bibliographic sources on the fossil species: -

Bardet et al. (2018) The Vertebrates of the Cretaceous-Paleogene Phosphates (70.6-46.6 Ma) of Morocco, in Zouhri S. (ed.), The Paleontology of the Vertebrates of Morocco. Memoirs of the Geological Society of France 180: 355-454. -

Lebrun P. (2020) - Fossils of Morocco. Volume IIa. Emblematic deposits of the Mesozoic and Paleogene. Editions du Piat. 300 p.)