



PROANTIC  
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

## Very Large Dutch Tobacco Jar With Original Lid: Hollandia, 18th Century



4 250 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Ceramic

Diameter : 27.5

Height : 40

### Description

Delft  
1760 - 1790  
Workshop unknown

A large blue and white tobacco jar for the storage of tobacco with an original brass lid.

The jar is inscribed Hollandia in a cartouche ornated with floral and shell motives. With a pillar on both sides, on which two Native Americans are leaning and smoking a pipe, with tobacco barrels and jars around them. The brand refers to the Province of Holland ( The most important of the Dutch Republic) and not immediately to the country of The Netherlands. This Inscription together with the size of the jar makes this a very rare piece.

### Dealer

Mazereeuw Antiquair  
Antique Dealer  
Mobile : +31610441458

Spiegelgracht 19  
Amsterdam 1017

In the 18th century, tobacco became an integral part of social life. Initially, in the 16th and 17th century valued for its exotic origins as a medicinal product, it later gained popularity as a stimulant. Tobacco was sold in dedicated shops where shopkeepers stored it in large Dutch Delftware jars. Smaller jars were used for snuff tobacco (Rappe), as only small quantities were required. These jars often bore inscriptions identifying the specific blends, such as Kruidnagel (Clove), Bergamot, Rozengeur (rose scent), Tonka (Tonka bean), and Violet. They also indicated the region of origin, including places like Havana, Macuba (Cuba), Martiniek (Martinique), Maryland, Portorico (Puerto Rico), Virginia, St. Vincent, St. Omer, Baltimore, Duinkerken (Dunkirk), Eindhoven, and so on, and broader areas like the USA and Hollandia (Holland)

In addition to inscriptions, the jars were often adorned with decorative images. A common motif was an elaborate floral cartouche topped with a flower basket. Less frequently, jars depicted Native Americans and Moors, symbolizing the exotic roots of tobacco and its connection to slavery and plantations. Even rarer were jars featuring the VOC (Dutch East India Company) logo, an anomaly, as the WIC (West India Company) was responsible for trade with the Americas. The rarest designs included images of buildings, ships, or other unique subjects, likely special commissions.

The jar is in very good condition with the normal small chips and wear of use, according to age.