



## 14th Cty, Large Oak Statue, St. Giles Protecting A Doe



4 400 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oak

Width : 28,5cm

Height : 98cm

Depth : 27cm environ

### Description

HAUTE EPOQUE Large light oak statue depicting Saint Giles the Hermit, wearing a hooded cloak, with a doe standing before him, its forelegs resting on his chest. He places his hand on the animal in a gesture of protection. This is a rare representation of this saint, more common in the Middle Ages than in the Renaissance or later periods. The wood surface appears weathered, but the oak statue remains very solid and heavy, and displays a magnificent, very blond patina, with occasional darker or grayish hues. The saint's cloak, very simple, modest, and ample, falls generously over his shoulders. The exquisite folds of his cloak at the sides are perfectly Gothic: very angular, characteristic of the second half of the 14th century, in the style of napkin-folded panels or the way scrolls were depicted. The statue has

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been mounted on a thin, discreet wooden base, giving it perfect stability. Dimensions : 98cm high, 28.5cm wide, and 27cm deep. Saint Giles, also known as Saint Aegidius, was a 7th-century Christian hermit, renowned for his ascetic life, his generosity towards the poor and sick, and his miracles. He founded a religious community that would later become the Abbey of Saint-Gilles-du-Gard. Saint Giles is famous for healing the sick and protecting animals. Legend has it that a doe sought refuge with him, a symbol of his protection and benevolence. He is considered the protector of the sick for his ability to heal through prayer and his devotion to those suffering. He also protects shepherds and their flocks, symbolizing charity and the protection of the vulnerable. The Abbey of Saint-Gilles-du-Gard, in southern France, the main site dedicated to Saint Giles, is a historical and cultural pilgrimage destination. The doe represents Saint Giles' protection and benevolence. According to legend, he protected a doe being pursued by hunters, and since then, it has been a recurring symbol associated with the saint. His spiritual legacy embodies universal values: charity, protection of the weak, and a simple life. Even in modern times, he remains a model of generosity and devotion, inspiring the faithful and those passionate about religious culture.\*

<https://www.hymne-nationale.com/saint-gilles/>\*

[https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gilles\\_l'Ermite](https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gilles_l'Ermite)