



## Large French Napoleon III Giltwood Mirror With Floral Carved Frame

2 235 EUR



Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Gilted wood

Length : 110 cm

Width : 76 cm

Depth : 7 cm

### Description

This elegant French wall mirror dates from the Napoleon III period, circa 1860-1880, a time when richly decorated gilt frames became particularly fashionable in interior decoration. The frame is crafted from carved solid wood, likely pine or poplar, both commonly used by French frame makers of the 19th century due to their stability and suitability for detailed carving and gilding. The frame features a refined giltwood finish with contrasting warm bole undertones, visible in places where the gilding has naturally softened over time, adding depth and authenticity. The decoration is composed of beautifully sculpted floral and foliate motifs, including roses, leaves, and stylized blossoms arranged in symmetrical vertical cartouches along the uprights and richly carved corner ornaments. A

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delicate twisted rope border and finely detailed inner molding further enhance the frame's sophisticated relief. The mirror retains its original antique mercury glass, which shows subtle signs of age that contribute to its historical charm and character. An interesting detail appears on the back of the mirror: fragments of 19th-century French newspaper used as protective backing. One visible section is dated October 22, 1873, suggesting that the mirror was either assembled, repaired, or re-backed during that period. This small historical trace provides a fascinating glimpse into the object's life and supports a dating to the second half of the 19th century. Overall, this mirror is a striking decorative piece that perfectly reflects the ornate elegance of the Napoleon III era and would complement both classic and eclectic interiors.