



1st-century A.d. Roman Gladius Hispaniensis



16 500 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Metal

Length : 85 cm

Description

1st-century AD Roman Gladius Hispaniensis. This Roman gladius, a Gladius Hispaniensis, is a rare artifact dating from the 1st century AD, likely belonging to a high-ranking officer in the Roman legion. The hilt, which is quite unusual for a Roman gladius, is adorned with Celtic-style fittings. It is similar to the Hod Hill sword shown here:

<https://archaicwonder.tumblr.com/post/127514097799/romano-british-sword-1st-century-ad-found-at-hod>. This sword appears to have been part of a major armory or museum collection, as evidenced by the brass tag depicting a double-headed eagle and bearing several letters as well as the number "275." Attached is a modern illustration of the hilt assembly, including the fittings and wood that form the tang, guard, and pommel. The sword is

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intact and structurally sound, with no play or loose parts. The damascene steel blade is equally impressive. This sword was certainly forged for a particularly important individual within the Legion. It features the typical wasp-shaped blade and bears numerous signs of use. The tip is reinforced and flared, a fairly common feature of Roman gladiatorial swords. The sword bears signs of conservation: a thin, dark protective coating--which is beginning to flake off--was applied to preserve and protect it, likely in the late 19th or early 20th century. A truly exceptional sword of museum quality! Specifications: Total length: 85 cm Blade length: 62.5 cm Maximum blade width: 5.8 cm