



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Nova Hispania et Nova Galicia

Stock#: 25972
Map Maker: Blaeu
Date: 1662
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 20 x 15 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

A gorgeous map of western Mexico, centered on Guadalajara and showing Mexico City, and originally appearing in the 1662 edition of Blaeu's *Atlas Maior*. The map is a finely decorated example of maps produced during the golden age of Dutch cartography and represents an area of keen interest to Europeans for its agricultural and mining output produced by the slave-based encomendero system.

The map extends inland to the Sierra Madres and Mexico City, northwards to central Nayarit, and southwards to the State of Guerrero. Cities shown include Compostela, Guadalajara, Mechoacanguarag (appearing to be Aguascalientes), Colima, Cuernavaca, and, of course, Mexico City. Lake Texcoco is still shown, with many islands and more. Near Mexico City, a volcano is erupting.

The map has a number of attractive decorative elements. It includes a fabulous armorial title cartouche, sailing ships, a compass rose, and a second, smaller cartouche that provides a legend for place names near larger cities. Armadillos and cherubs adorn this cartouche, while the main cartouche shows the coats of arms of Hapsburg Spain, a lion holding the royal symbols of a sword and globe, and several indigenous figures with local fauna.

Notes abound through the map, with central Mexico being labeled a "Terra incognita." Hints of references are made to the local populations, and tall mountains are noted.

This map originally appeared in Blaeu's *Atlas Maior*, a twelve-volume atlas. This represents the largest collection of maps ever printed together using copper-plate engravings. The map is an essential piece for



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any collection of maps of Mexico.

Detailed Condition:

Nice original hand-color. Wide margins. Minor color offsetting.