



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Regni Hispaniae Post Omnium Editiones Locumpleissima Descriptio

Stock#: 46158
Map Maker: Ortelius
Date: 1581
Place: Antwerp
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 19.5 x 15 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Ortelius' Detailed Map of the Iberian Peninsula from the World's First Modern Atlas

Striking example of Abraham Ortelius' map of the Iberian Peninsula, from his influential *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*, the first modern atlas of the world.

The map is closely centered around the peninsula itself, with a sliver of Northern Africa included to the south. The Balearic Islands are also present, in the Mediterranean to the east. The interiors of Portugal and Spain are littered with place names; each settlement is noted with a building symbol. Rivers and mountains are also detailed.

Ortelius' characteristic strapwork design ornaments the title cartouche, which is in the bottom right corner. In the lower left is a scale, which is topped with a large pair of dividers. A huge swordfish guards (or menaces?) the Balearic Islands, while another sea monster approaches the Strait of Gibraltar from the west. In the upper left corner is a ship in full sail, with another to the right side of the map.

Ortelius was famous for his wide consultation of sources with which he made his own representations. This map is closely related to map of the botanist Carolus Clusius, also known as Charles de l'Escluse, who published a six-sheet map of Spain, *Hispaniae nova descriptio* (1569-1571).

This map appeared in four states, although it was altered relatively little over the course of its publishing history, which lasted from 1570 to 1612 with regard to Ortelius' atlas.



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1. The first state appeared in the first of Ortelius' atlases in 1570.
2. The second state, used from 1573 onward, replaces the name Paracuelos with Martimuñoz.
3. The third state, from 1589, added several place names and changed "Fretum Herculeum, sive Gaditanem/Estrecho de Gibraltar" to merely "Estrecho de Gibraltar."
4. The fourth state added stippling around the names of the seas and extended the hachuring along the coastlines. It appeared from 1595.

This example is a fine example of a second state and would make a nice addition to any collection of Iberian Peninsula or Ortelius maps.

Detailed Condition: