George III Scottish sterling silver wine funnel

George Fenwick

£975



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Height: 165 mm (6.5")

Diameter: 107 mm (4.21")

Weight: 163 g

Description

Impressive antique Scottish sterling silver wine funnel with an excellent curved spout, and a knurled and reeded top section holding the stepped filter bowl which in turn has a finely detailed flower, scroll and berry pattern applied to the flared rim. The funnel features a traditional scallop shell hook on the rim.

This is a lovely example of a Georgian wine funnel and has the features we expect from such a piece - a wonderful curve to the spout allowing the wine to gently run down the side of the decanter, a good size capacity bowl, and two sections which allow a piece of muslin to be inserted for straining the wine. All features that make this a very useful accessory for serving and enjoying red wine.

First appearing at the end of the 17th century, sterling silver wine funnels were designed to decant wine from the bottle to a decanter for the table. The bowl was pierced with holes for catching larger pieces of detritus such as cork, while a retaining ring kept a piece of muslin straining cloth in place which filtered out finer sediment and prevented spoiling the wine in the decanter.

In the 18th century the spigot was crafted with a curved tip to ensure the wine ran gently down the wall of the decanter and, particularly for very fine or old wines, prevent bruising the wine.