



19TH CENTURY FRENCH PROVENÇAL GLAZED TERRACOTTA OLIVE OIL JAR FROM BIOT

\$1,950

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This beautifully weathered antique olive oil jar was crafted in Biot, in the South of France, circa 1860. Hand-thrown from substantial terracotta, the vessel features the classic ovoid form associated with the celebrated pottery tradition of Provence, with softly rounded shoulders, a short neck, thick rolled rim, and small circular foot.

The interior and upper neck retain a warm yellow glaze, originally applied to help seal the porous clay for the storage of olive oil, olives, and other provisions. The unglazed exterior has developed a wonderfully timeworn surface in soft shades of cream, beige, gray, and pale ochre. Visible throwing lines, mineral deposits, abrasions, and traces of old surface coloration give the jar an authentic Mediterranean patina and strong sculptural presence.

The hilltop village of Biot, near Antibes on the French Riviera, became renowned for producing large utilitarian storage jars from the 16th century onward. These vessels were widely used throughout Provence and exported across the Mediterranean, and today they are prized for their simple forms and naturally aged surfaces.

The antique jar is in excellent condition commensurate with age and use.

Dimensions: 15" diameter x 20" H.

Weight: 42 lbs.