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Iznik Dish

Turkey, circa 1650-1675

30cm diameter

Stock no.: A4560

The circular dish contains eight rumi scrolls pointing towards the centre painted on a turquoise ground and encircled by another set of scrolls. The cavetto displays a series of overlapping rumi scrolls on a blue and turquoise ground. The rim of the dish is decorated with cobalt blue rosettes with a bole red centre flanked by two turquoise leaves sprouting out from a small blue floral sprig. The exterior of the dish is painted with alternating blue and green floral buds.

As the 17th century commenced, the Ottoman Empire became less-affluent as a result of the numerous military campaigns they had launched in neighbouring lands. The funding to the Iznik potters abated and, in conjunction with a loss of patronage by the court, Iznik wares began to fall out of favour. As a result, Iznik painted decoration and potting in the 17th century is quite dissimilar to that of the highly-controlled and meticulous painting seen on 16th-century Iznik wares.