Schotten

Small Vintage Biscuit Tin With Polo Scene

£145

Manfred Schotten Antiques
109 High Street • Burford • Oxfordshire • OX18 4RG
01993 822 302 • schotten@sportantiques.co.uk

REF: 30526

Height: 4.2 cm (1.7")

Width: 15.5 cm (6.1")

Depth: 9.5 cm (3.7")

Description

Vintage Félix Potin Biscuit Tin With Polo Scenes.
A delightful vintage French biscuit tin for Félix Potin's praline filled wafers. The front of the tin with a scene of a polo match, to the side an image of polo equipment, mallets, ball, caps, flags and stirrups. Also shown on the side of the tin is the contents (wafers) with the word 'POLO' on them. Great colourful artwork all over the tin. The wording on all over the tin 'Gaufrettes Fourrées, Au Praliné, Félix Potin, Paris. Manufacture De Biscuits, Félix Potin, Paris'. The tin is photographed with a second Felix Potin tin (#30527) which is larger and also available.

Félix Potin is the name of a French businessman and his eponymous mass-distribution retail business, founded in the mid-nineteenth century. While the business was bought out and then collapsed in the second half of the twentieth century, the brand has been revived by a contemporary distribution network. Jean-Louis-Félix Potin was born in 1820 in Arpajon, in what is today the Île-de-France region surrounding Paris. He died in 1871.
Félix Potin opened his first shop at 28 rue Coquenard in Paris in 1844, at the age of just 24. This was followed by numerous other branches operating under the same name. In 1860, he opened the first two-level, large-area retailer on the Boulevard de Sébastopol in Paris. The following year he constructed a Félix Potin factory in La Villette, in the northern outskirts of Paris.

The Félix Potin network experienced remarkable success during the late Second Empire and early Third Republic. In 1864 he expanded the Villette factory and opened a boutique on the Boulevard Malesherbes. In 1870 he started a home-delivery service. The business continued to grow after its founder's death, with a second factory in 1880 and a second large shop on Rue de Rennes in 1904. Félix Potin factories employed 1,800 workers in 1906, growing to 8,000 by 1927. By 1923, the Félix Potin name counted 70 branches, 10 factories, 5 wine stores and 650 horses.

The business survived in more or less the same form until 1956. Taken from Wikipedia.

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