



Hand-coloured engraved map.

## THE EARLIEST PRINTED MAP TO FOCUS ON CHINA

**Chinae olim Sinarum regionis, nova descriptio. Auctore Ludouico Georgio.**

### Author

ORTELIUS, Abraham

### Publication date

1584

### Publisher

Plantin Press],

### Publication place

[Antwerp,

### Physical description

Hand-coloured engraved map.

### Dimensions

370 by 470mm. (14.5 by 18.5 inches).

### Notes

The earliest printed map to focus on China, and the first to illustrate the Great Wall. It was the first western map of China drawn directly from the findings of the Portuguese mapmaker Luis Jorge de Barbuda, or Ludovicus Georgius. Barbuda was a Jesuit, and he made a manuscript map of China from information on the area gathered by the Jesuit mission. Arias Montanus passed this map on to Ortelius.

The map is oriented to the west. Japan is shown on a curved projection, borrowing from Portuguese sources. Wind wagons are shown in the north, a Chinese invention that also became popular in the Low Countries.

**Bibliography**

Van der Krogt 8410:31, for atlas see van der Krogt 31:051.

**Provenance****Price:**

**Inventory reference:** 14979