



## Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

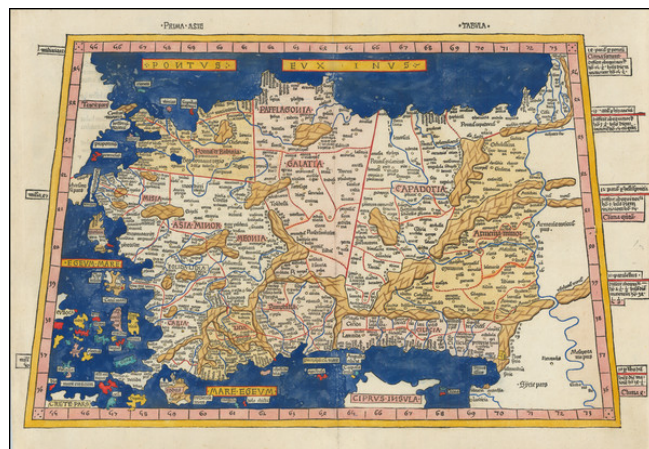
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### (Asia Minor - Türkiye) Prima Asie Tabula [First Map of Asia]

**Stock#:** 101260  
**Map Maker:** Ptolemy / Holle  
**Date:** 1486  
**Place:** Ulm  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 21.5 x 15.2 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



#### Description:

#### *The First Map of Asia Minor Published North of the Alps*

Striking example of Greco-Roman geographer and astronomer Claudius Ptolemy's mapping of Asia Minor, drawn from his monumental *Geographia*, his 2nd Century A.D. treatise which would become the single most important early Renaissance view of the classical world and influence Renaissance cartography for over two centuries.

The first Asian region (Prima Tabula) covered by Ptolemy Asia Minor, a region corresponding to modern-day Turkey. Ptolemy's depiction of this area, captured in the map *Prima Asiae Tabula*, underwent a fascinating evolution; one of the high points was its appearance in the 1482 and 1486 Ulm editions of Ptolemy's *Geographia*.

Ptolemy's original work on Asia Minor was based on earlier sources, most of which are lost today. His maps, including *Prima Asiae Tabula*, were likely not visually represented in his original manuscript but were instead provided as detailed instructions allowing cartographers to recreate the geographical layout. Ptolemy's Asia Minor was divided into precise coordinate points using a grid system, based on longitudinal and latitudinal lines.

Nicolaus Germanus, a Benedictine monk of the 15th century, played a significant role in reviving Ptolemy's work. His manuscript editions of *Geographia* included one of the earliest known examples of maps created following Ptolemy's instructions, bringing a visual component to Ptolemy's geographic descriptions. In his depiction of Asia Minor, Germanus applied Ptolemy's coordinates to construct a relatively accurate layout of the region, emphasizing the peninsular shape of Asia Minor and the prominence of the Aegean and



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Black Seas.

**Detailed Condition:**

Woodcut on 15th-century laid paper. Original hand-color, retouched and augmented. Left and right margins expertly extended, just affecting a bit of the printed marginal annotations.