

## 6-branch antique sterling silver flower vase épergne

Goldsmiths & Silversmiths Co

£7,500



REF: 9000

Height: 330 mm (12.99") Width: 410 mm (16.14") Depth: 155 mm (6.1")

Weight: 1694 g

## Description

This wonderful and unusual antique pierced silver épergne centrepiece is designed with six removable flower vases sitting in an upward curving frame. The scrolling wire and acanthus leaf arms rise from an oval base incorporating struts with more scroll and leaf designs; all reminiscent of the Albert pattern cutlery pattern.

Despite its elegant design, this silver épergne centrepiece is surprisingly heavy and is ideal for a dining table or sideboard.

Originating in 17th century France, and designed to hold any type of food, fruit or sweetmeats for guests at the table, the épergne first came to England in the early 18th century. Traditionally made of silver, an épergne often features a large central bowl or basket sitting on three to five feet. Radiating from this central bowl are between two to seven branches supporting smaller silver or crystal baskets, dishes or candleholders. Later designs introduced other elements so that the épergne could be used as an eyecatching decorative table centrepiece to display candles and flowers.