Set of six sterling silver stacking beakers or stirrup cups

Langfords

£4,800



REF: 7298

Langfords
London Silver Vaults • Vaults 8 & 10 • 53-64 Chancery Lane • London • WC2A 1QS
+44 20 7242 6646 • silver@langfords.com • www.langfords.com

Height: 97 mm (3.82")

Weight: 666 g

Description

Set of six stacking or nesting silver beakers with gilded interiors. Made in a satisfyingly heavy-gauge of silver, the slightly graduated sizes means they slip and sit easily inside each other.

Popular in 16th and 17th century Germany, stacking beakers (satzbecher) were a solution for travellers and affluent diners who needed compact, transportable drinking vessels. They often featured embossed or engraved decorations showcasing the owner's status and artistic taste.

In 17th century England and became popular with the upper classes when travelling, during countryside pursuits or on military campaigns. As an English custom, stirrup cups and beakers would be presented by the huntsman, kennel man or gamekeeper to mounted riders (with their feet firmly in the stirrups) prior to leaving for or arriving home from a hunt. Their small capacity allowed the liquid to be drunk quickly; usually wine or a spirit-based punch mixed with spices.

While no longer essential for travel, silver stacking beakers continue to be used during outdoor activities. The fitted leather case allows them to be carried conveniently and they can be personalised with engraving of any image or script. These fine beakers are the perfect way to share a drink with a group and would make a great accompaniment to any flask, silver hip flask or otherwise.