
PAGODA RED



JAPANESE GILT TRAVELING SHRINE OF STANDING BUDDHA

\$2,880

c. 1850 • Japan • Pigment, Wood, Lacquer • Collection #CMK095

W: 4.0" D: 2.75" H: 11.75"

The simple exterior of even black lacquer that encases this 19th-century Japanese traveling shrine belies the splendor within. The hinged doors open to a gilt interior framing an intricately carved figure of the historical Buddha, known in Japanese Buddhism as Shaka or Shakyamuni.

The Buddha is depicted here in a standing posture upon a double lotus plinth and an ornate stepped base. He is dressed in long draped robes and backed by a magnificent leaf-form nimbus carved with swirling clouds. His expression one serene meditation, the Buddha holds his right hand upwards in the abhaya mudra, a gesture of comfort, blessing, and protection. Continued...



1740 W. Webster Ave., Chicago, IL 60614 • 773-235-1188 • info@pagodared.com

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His left hand points downwards in the varada mudra, a gesture of mercy and a symbol of the moment he summoned Heaven as witness to his enlightenment.

This petite Japanese shrine was likely acquired by a Buddhist follower on a religious pilgrimage. Devotees would often return home with a traveling shrine as a memento of their journey or would donate them to a temple as an expression of religious devotion.

Additional Dimensions:

Width with Doors Open: 8.

