

Oushak

Antique Turkish rugs embody traditions as old as Persia's, but since most Turks are Sunni Muslims, they observe the Koranic prohibition against the depiction of people and animals rather more strictly than their Shiite neighbors. Consequently, Turkish carpets have designs based on geometric motifs, frequently of a prayer niche design. The colors most frequently used are red and blue. Green, their sacred color, is used on prayer rugs. You'll find Turkish rugs called Koula, Ladik, Bergoma, Milas, Ghiordes, Oushak.

Antique Oushak rugs originated in the small town of Oushak in west central Anatolia, roughly 100 miles directly south of the city of Istanbul in Turkey. Oushak has produced some of the most decorative Persian influenced rugs of all times. Oushak has been a production center of Turkish rugs since the 15th century. In the late 15th century the "design revolution" took place. Before, producing carpets was part of the nomad culture, meeting people's daily needs, but for the first time the works of designing and weaving rugs were split in two. These Turkish rugs began to be produced commercially. Oushak was the center of this new method of production because it had easy access to wool (best Turkish wool comes from Balıkesir, Oushak and Kütahya), natural dyes, & had access to the international market. From the 16th up to the 18th century the most famous manufacturers of ottoman times worked in Oushak. Until today the Oushak rugs (Usak, Ushak) are much in demand and sold at the big auctions. Old Oushaks are 100% wool and of very high quality.



Oushak Area Map
Oushak, Ushak, Usak is in Northwest Turkey.