



ITEM# UJKA131

A BIZEN KOZORI SCHOOL KATANA

UNSIGNED, NAMBOKUCHO – EARLY MUROMACHI (~1368AD)

Swordsmith: Bizen Kozori School
Location: Bizen no Kuni (Okayama prefecture)
Measurements: **Length:** 62.2cm **Curvature:** 1.8cm **Motohaba:** 2.6cm
Jihada: Tight ko-itame and jinie
Hamon: Ko-gunome midare **Nakago:** O-suriage
Certificate: NBTHK Hozon (a sword designated as Worthy of Conservation by the Society for the Preservation of the Japan Art Sword)
Included: Vintage koshirae, carry bag, sword stand, kit, DVD, printed care guide

SOLD

The Kozori group were a fine collection of swordsmiths whose closest ties were with the Kanemitsu School that worked in the late 1300s to early 1400s when this sword was forged.

This katana is filled with history. When first created, it was a longer tachi proudly carried on horseback by a Samurai and surely used during the Nambokucho war. It was then shortened during the late Muromachi period to become a dependable classic one-handed fighting katana. A *bo-hi* (groove) runs down the length of the blade to make it light and highly effective.

The *ko-gunome hamon* tightly vibrates along the blade in an eye-catching fashion and one can admire *utsuri*, a unique shadow hamon that older Bizen blades possess. The Edo-period *saya* (scabbard) is a fine *shu* (reddish) lacquered colour with evenly presented vertical lines. The *sukashi tsuba* (open work design) is a real treat along with a vintage leather hilt that contains finely crafted *menuki* in floral design and a *fuchi-kashira* depicting waves crashing in the ocean.