



ITEM NO. UJWA133

## A SUKEKUNI WAKIZASHI

SIGNED, EDO PERIOD (KANBUN ERA: 1661-1673)

<b>Swordsmith:</b>	<b>Bizen no Kami SUKEKUNI</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<i>Settsu province (Osaka)</i>
<b>Length:</b>	44.2cm <b>Curvature:</b> 1.2cm
<b>Jihada:</b>	<i>Ko-itame</i>
<b>Hamon:</b>	<i>Gorgeous gunome choji majiri with ashi</i>
<b>Nakago:</b>	<i>Ubu-nakago, o-sujikai yasuri</i>
<b>Certificate:</b>	<b>NTHK-NPO Kanteisho</b> (a sword designated as Important by the Society for the Preservation of the Japanese Sword)
<b>Included:</b>	Koshirae, shirasaya, silk carry bag, sword stand, maintenance kit, DVD, printed care guide, registration and all exportation paperwork to home country

**SOLD**

Sukekuni was one of the finest swordsmiths of the Kii Ishido School in Osaka. He studied under the highly respected smith *Bitchu no Kami YASUHIRO*.

This is a healthy sword that features a spectacularly skilled *gunome choji hamon* (a temper line comprising of clove blossoms waving in a random pattern).

It is in its original shape (*ubu nakago*) and fully signed by the craftsman.

The outdoor *koshirae* is comprised of beautifully reinforced matching *shinchu* (brass) fittings. Collectively this type of *koshirae* is referred to as *dochuzashi* ('*dochu*' meaning "while on a journey", '*zashi*' is translated to "wearing it").

Especially built to better protect the sword and to serve as defence, this is a set of fittings destined for all types of weather and all forms of encounters. It is meant for a person who enjoys embarking on challenging journeys in life.

Only a Samurai of elite status or a merchant with great wealth could have afforded fittings in brass. Brass is an alloy of copper and zinc was more expensive than gold to produce during the Edo period.

Further images below; note the unique full moon depicted on the habaki.

