

Celadon Tableware Still Popular in Jingdezhen market

History of Chinese Celadon 青瓷

What is Celadon 青瓷?

Celadon refers to pottery with a jade green color, also known as greenware. It can also refer to a type of transparent glaze with small cracks, used on greenware and later on other porcelains.

How is Celadon Color Produced?

- The celadon color is produced by firing a glaze with a small amount of iron oxide in a reducing kiln.
- Too little iron oxide results in a blue color.
- Too much iron oxide results in olive or black.
- The ideal amount is between 0.75% and 2.5%.
- Other chemicals can affect the color (e.g., titanium dioxide gives a yellowish tinge).

Photos below showcase the daily use tableware celadons made in Jingdezhen, which remain popular in the market.

Contact us :

5F-B18 Digital Trade Industrial Park,
Ceramic Expo City,
Changnan New District,
Jingdezhen, China
www.californiasources.site
ChineseSources.org@outlook.com
Phone 18918151538 (WeChat)



Factors Affecting Celadon Color:

1. Thickness of the glaze
2. Type of clay
3. Chemical makeup of the glaze
4. Firing temperature
5. Kiln atmosphere reduction
6. Glaze opacity



Origin of Celadon:

Celadon originated in China. Notable kilns include Longquan kiln in Zhejiang province. Production spread to Japan, Korea, and Southeast Asia. European potteries also produced some celadon, but it was not significant there.

Yue Ware and Longquan Celadon:

Yue ware was the earliest major type of celadon. Longquan is now the place of Lishui Zhejiang, its celadon became prominent during the Northern Song dynasty and flourished under the Southern Song dynasty with bluish and olive green glazes.



Ru Ware:

Ru ware is made in Ruzhou Henan province. Ru ware is a rare type of Chinese pottery from the Song dynasty, produced for the imperial court around 1100. Fewer than 100 complete pieces survive. Ru ware is known for a distinctive pale "duck-egg" blue glaze. Shapes include dishes, cups, vases, and incense-burners, considered a particular form of celadon wares.

Why Longquan Celadon gains more international fame?

Longquan celadon was widely exported throughout East Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East during the 13th–15th centuries. It is highly valued in Islamic nations. The oldest European import of celadon dates to about 1420.



Reason of Celadon Decline :

Celadon was highly regarded by the Chinese imperial court but was replaced by painted wares, especially blue and white porcelain under the Yuan dynasty. The development of blue and white porcelain led to a decline in celadon production and quality after about 1500, although there were some revivals in later centuries.

