

NUMBERED EDITION



Charlotte di Vita MBE
COLLECTIONS
LONDON

On behalf of my team I would like to thank you for supporting our fundraising activities by stocking the Charlotte di Vita Collections™.

By selling one of these miniature enamel teapots you are more than simply selling a collectable but also raising funds for charitable projects and creating ethical employment in less developed countries.

I am sorry that I can not meet with you and your staff personally but hope that this information sheet will help to answer some of your staff's and customers' questions in regard to how the miniature enamel teapots are made and how the funds raised are used to assist less fortunate communities.

Charlotte di Vita

Charlotte di Vita MBE

What is so special about the miniature enamels in the Charlotte di Vita Collections™?



Funds raised through the sale of these enamel collectibles are donated to the Trade plus Aid® charitable trust in order to make a real difference to the lives of thousands of impoverished people in Africa and Asia.

Since 1992, Trade plus Aid® and its ethical trading partners, which include the Charlotte di Vita Collections™, have:

- Returned over US\$5million to producer communities as payment for their fair trade handicrafts
- Created ethical employment in 21 less developed countries in Africa, Asia and South America
- Raised US\$369,500 to create charitable projects to assist 33 disadvantaged communities in 12 countries around the world
- Created 483 secure jobs for individuals who support extended families in Africa and Asia
- And is currently assisting 38,600 individuals in 31 communities in eight countries in Africa & Asia.

See Story of Trade plus Aid for more information.

How are the enamels made?

The Charlotte di Vita Collections™ are created using advanced quality and safety control measures, but the actual production methods are the same as the traditional techniques used in 18th century England.

Made individually by hand, every enamel teapot may take up to four days to complete due to the intricate nature and elaborate work required and entails more than 129 skilled tasks.



Each teapot is made from 19 individually-cut, copper pieces. The copper pieces are then tied together with wires, tempered and fired in a kiln for the welding process to take effect.

Once the weld has hardened the wires are removed and the item is thoroughly cleaned before a base enamel, usually white, is applied. The item is then placed into the firing kiln once again to solidify the base enamel.

The design outline is then applied and fired. Using fine hair miniature brushes, the craftspeople then handpaint individual vitreous colours one by one, with separate firings for every colour, to create lustrous enamel paintings.

It is a delicate and difficult process. If the item is over-fired even once, colours can fade and all efforts go to waste.

Each piece is individually handcrafted, ensuring that no two pieces are ever identical.

Intricate craftsmanship and timeless designs make the Charlotte di Vita Collections™ enamels works of art to be treasured, from generation to generation.

How many teapot designs are available in the Charlotte di Vita Collections?



There are currently 156 miniature enamel teapots available in the Charlotte di Vita Collections™, and new designs are added every year.

Standing just 8 to 12cm high, every one of these Charlotte di Vita Collections™ miniature enamel teapots is individually hand-made and hand-painted.

Every teapot is a genuine numbered edition collectable, back-stamp authenticated and presented with a brass tag tied by a silk cord to the handle confirming the teapot as a "Certified Original".

The teapot comes in a stunning exclusive, design-led, silk-lined gift box.

Who is Charlotte di Vita?

Charlotte di Vita is a young British woman who has been pioneering a unique approach to world trade since 1992, by raising funds for charitable projects through the ethical trade of handicrafts.

In recognition of her great achievements, just six years after starting her first ethical trading initiative, Charlotte was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for her services to trade plus aid.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II wrote to Charlotte to express her delight that the secret of Royal enameling had now been handed down to preserve ancient traditions and to create fairly-paid employment in China.

