

The Kiwi pattern of the Crown Crystal Company of Australia

By Francine and Michel Jacob

We are talking about a bird, not a fruit.

It's dark in New Zealand. Most birds are asleep. But not the Kiwi. He comes out of his burrow and looks for his food. This is the best time, because its predators are asleep. And he's incapable of flying. The Kiwi scrapes the ground with its long beak to find its food. It does not see well, but thanks to its highly developed sense of smell, it can spot the best seeds and juicy earthworms. Kiwi has whiskers, like cats or mice. They allow him to feel his environment and spot his food. You can't see them, but the kiwi has tiny wings. He doesn't fly, but he runs! The kiwi has real runner's legs. He also uses them to dig a shelter in the ground. It is the only bird whose nostrils are at the tip of the beak. Perfect for smelling food when digging the ground.



OK, that's fine the zoology lesson, but let's move on to our passion at all, Carnival glass.

According to Doty, "There are three different shapes: a 9-inch bowl and a 5-inch bowl and also a very rare salad bowl. The drawing shows two birds in a garland of ferns. The reason the Kiwi motif is so rare is that the Kiwi bird is actually a New Zealand creature and when the Australian company Crown Crystal started producing these parts, New Zealand asked them to stop, saying that the birds should only be presented on New Zealand products."



The exterior of these bowls is "Feathered flower". All shapes and two colors (orange and amethyst "dark" only) are very rare.

From 1990 to 2020, only 16 pieces of this motif were auctioned:

Five 9-inch round or wavy bowls of purple color, ranging from \$1000 to \$7000 USD.

A 9-inch (corrugated) orange bowl in 2006 on EBay \$2005 USD.

Eight bowls (bowl with 5" corrugated condiments) orange, ranging from \$100 to \$1500 USD.

Two orange salad bowls, one on EBay in 2004 for \$332 USD (with a cooling crack) and another on June 7, 2020 in a Seek auction for \$2500 USD (see photo opposite).



You will notice that there is no 5" purple condiment bowl. According to Doty, there was a sale in 2006 of a purple condiment bowl for US\$450. But according to the 2006 Carnival Glass Auction Prices of Mordini, this bowl was orange in color. On carnival Glass Australia, there is no photo for this piece. We even ask if anyone had one, contact them. Regardless of shape or color, this pattern is extremely rare.

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