



Savoca Coins

Silver | 187th Silver Auction

10 December 2023

All prices are starting prices (EUR)
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1 Central Gaul. Lemovice 100-50 BC. Quinarius AR 17 mm, 1,91 g Stylised head left / Stylised horse left; dagger above, pentagram below Very Fine DT 3435.

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2 Gaul. Massalia circa 410-380 BC. Obol AR 10 mm, 0,73 g [MAΣΣΑΛΙΩΤΑΝ], horned head of Lakydon to right / Wheel of four spokes; M in one quarter. Good Very Fine Chevillon & Lillamand fig. 2c.

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3 Sicily. Kamarina circa 420-405 BC. Tetras AÆ 15 mm, 3,44 g Head of Athena left, wearing crested Attic helmet decorated with wing / KAMA, owl standing left, head facing, grasping lizard in talon, in exergue, three pellets. Very Fine Westermarck & Jenkins 200; CNS 33; SNG ANS 1229.

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4 Macedon. Amphipolis circa 357-353 BC. Obol AR 9 mm, 0,44 g Male head right, wearing taenia / A-M-Φ-I clockwise from top left in the corners of a linear square, fish (perch) right downwards within, all in incuse square. Very Fine SNG ANS 83-4; HGC 3.1, 416. Ex Hirsch Auction 240, Lot 117.

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5 Macedon. Amphipolis. Time of Philip V - Perseus 187-167 BC. Bronze AÆ 22 mm, 7,30 g Laureate head of Apollo (or the river god Strymon) right / Ornamented trident head, monograms flanking base. Very Fine HGC 3.1, 334. Ex Münzzentrum Rheinland Auction 124, Lot 26.

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6 Macedon. Amphipolis circa 167-149 BC. Under Roman Protectorate. Republican period. First Meris Tetradrachm AR 30 mm, 16,78 g Diademed and draped bust of Artemis right with bow and quiver over shoulder in centre of Macedonian shield / ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΩΝ ΠΡΩΤΗΣ, club; monogram above, two monograms below; all within oak wreath, thunderbolt to left. Very Fine McClean 3708; SNG Copenhagen 1314; HGC 3, 1103. The Macedonian shield, often associated with the ancient Macedonian army led by Alexander the Great, is known as the "hoplon" or "hoplite shield." Hoplites were heavily armed infantry soldiers in ancient Greece, and their shields played a crucial role in the phalanx formation, a tactical formation used in ancient Greek warfare. The Macedonian hoplon was typically round and made of wood, covered with a layer of bronze. It had a central grip called the "umbo," allowing the wielder to hold it securely in the center of the shield. The shield was relatively large, measuring about three feet in diameter. The outer edge of the shield was often reinforced with a metal rim, providing additional protection and structural integrity. What makes the Macedonian shield interesting is its role in the phalanx formation. In a phalanx, soldiers would stand in a tight, overlapping formation, each holding their shield to cover not only themselves but also the right side of the person next to them. This created a wall of shields that presented a formidable barrier to the enemy. The soldiers in the phalanx would advance together, making it a powerful and disciplined military tactic. The Macedonian phalanx, under the leadership of Alexander the Great, played a crucial role in the conquests of the Macedonian Empire. The shield was not only a piece of defensive equipment but also an essential element in the coordination and effectiveness of the phalanx on the battlefield.



7 Macedon. Amphipolis circa 167-149 BC. Under Roman Protectorate. Republican period. First Meris Tetradrachm AR 32 mm, 15,85 g Diademed and draped bust of Artemis right with bow and quiver over shoulder in centre of Macedonian shield / ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΩΝ ΠΡΩΤΗΣ, club; monogram above, all within oak wreath, thunderbolt to left. Very Fine AMNG III/1, 163. SNG Copenhagen -; HGC 3, 1103.

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8 Macedon. Amphipolis circa 167-149 BC. Under Roman Protectorate. Republican period. First Meris Tetradrachm AR 32 mm, 17,08 g Diademed and draped bust of Artemis right with bow and quiver over shoulder in centre of Macedonian shield / ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΩΝ ΠΡΩΤΗΣ, club; HP monogram above, N below; all within oak wreath, thunderbolt to left. Very Fine HGC 3, 1103; AMNG III/1 167. Ex Münzzentrum Rheinland Auction 128, Lot 22.

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9 Macedon. Under Roman Protectorate circa 167-165 BC. Bronze Æ 23 mm, 10,49 g Facing mask of Silenos, wearing ivy wreath / MAKEΔONΩN in two lines, D above, all within ivy wreath. Very Fine SNG Copenhagen 1324-6. Silenos, a captivating figure in Greek mythology, stands out as a companion to the god of wine and revelry, Dionysus. Depicted as a satyr with the upper body of a man and the lower body of a goat, Silenos exudes an air of merriment and wild celebration. What makes him intriguing is the juxtaposition of his seemingly comical appearance with the wisdom he was believed to possess. In the realm of Greek mythology, Silenos played a pivotal role as a tutor and advisor to Dionysus, imparting his accumulated wisdom to the god and his followers. Despite the often chaotic and drunken nature attributed to him, Silenos carried an aura of ancient knowledge, symbolizing the harmony of revelry and wisdom. Art and literature of ancient Greece frequently featured Silenos, showcasing his jovial escapades and close association with Dionysus. Scenes of him riding a donkey or surrounded by satyrs underscored his connection to the untamed and joyous aspects of life. One notable myth involving Silenos centers around King Midas of Phrygia, who, after capturing Silenos, received a wish from Dionysus. The consequence of Midas' wish for the golden touch, a tale that has transcended myth into the realms of cautionary folklore, adds another layer to Silenos' narrative.



10 Kings of Macedon. Aigai. Alexander I 498-454 BC. Hemiobol AR 8 mm, 0,28 g Spear head / Quadripartite incuse square. Very Fine Klein 119; SNG ANS 1003; SNG Copenhagen 464. Ex Hirsch Auction 240, Lot 124. Alexander, son of Amyntas I, was said to have married his sister to Persian general Bubares to conceal his involvement in a Persian embassy murder, as per Herodotus. However, this story is likely fictional, possibly invented by Herodotus during his time in Macedonia. It's more plausible that the marriage was arranged by Amyntas around 510 BC or managed by Alexander after his father's death. During Alexander's reign, Macedonia was initially a vassal to the Achaemenid Empire, a status continuing from his father's time. In 492 BC, it became fully subordinate to the Persian Empire after Mardonius' campaign. Alexander, serving as a representative of Persian governor Mardonius, participated in peace negotiations after the Persian defeat at the Battle of Salamis in 480 BC. Despite this role, he aided Greek city-states, providing supplies and advice, warning them of Persian plans before the Battle of Plataea in 479 BC. Herodotus referred to Alexander as a hyparchos (viceroy) after Mardonius' conquest of Macedon. Despite cooperating with Persia, Alexander played a key role in regaining Macedonian independence after the Persian Wars. He informed the Greeks about Persian movements, advising them to evacuate Tempe before Xerxes' troops arrived and revealing an alternate route to Thessaly through upper Macedonia. Claiming descent from Argive Greeks and Heracles, Alexander underwent scrutiny by Elean hellanodikai, confirming his lineage and granting him the right to participate in the Olympic Games, reserved for Greeks. He modeled his court after Athens, patronizing poets like Pindar and Bacchylides, earning the epithet "philhellene" for his love of Greek culture and identity.



11 Kings of Macedon. Amphipolis. Alexander III "the Great" 336-323 BC. In the name and types of Alexander III. Struck circa 307-297 BC Tetradrachm AR 27 mm, 16,95 g Head of Herakles right, wearing lion skin / ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ, Zeus Aëtophoros seated left, in left field, Λ above torch, HP monogram below throne. Very Fine Price 462. Alexander the Great was a renowned ancient Macedonian king and military conqueror. Born in Pella, Macedonia, he was the son of King Philip II and Queen Olympias. He inherited a strong military tradition and education from his father and the philosopher Aristotle. After Philip's assassination in 336 BC, Alexander ascended to the throne at the age of 20. Alexander's most famous achievement was his vast conquest, which created one of the largest empires in history. He led his armies across Asia, through Persia, Egypt, and into India, defeating powerful empires along the way. He employed a mix of military genius, strategy, and diplomacy to unite his diverse empire. His speed and ability to adapt in battle earned him the title "Alexander the Great." He is best known for the Battle of Issus in 333 BC, where he decisively defeated the Persian King Darius III, and the Siege of Tyre in 332 BC, which showcased his innovative siege tactics. In 331 BC, he founded the city of Alexandria in Egypt, which became a prominent center of learning and culture. Despite his military prowess, Alexander aimed to blend Greek and Persian cultures, facilitating a cultural exchange known as Hellenization. His death at the age of 32 in Babylon in 323 BC marked the end of his conquests. His empire was divided among his generals, eventually leading to the rise of the Hellenistic kingdoms. Alexander's legacy has left an enduring impact on history, culture, and military strategy. His leadership, achievements, and vision continue to be studied and celebrated across the world.



12 Kings of Macedon. Kolophon. Alexander III "the Great" 336-323 BC. Drachm AR 19 mm, 4,13 g Head of Herakles right, wearing lion skin / [ΑΛ]ΕΞΑΝΔ[ΡΟΥ], Zeus seated left on throne, holding eagle and sceptre; monogram in left field; Φ below throne. Very Fine Price 1823.

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13 Kings of Macedon. Miletos. Alexander III "the Great" 336-323 BC. In the name and types of Alexander III of Macedon Tetradrachm AR 29 mm, 17,08 g Head of Herakles to right, wearing lion skin headdress / ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡ[ΟΥ], Zeus seated left on low throne, holding long scepter in his left hand and eagle standing right with closed wings in his right; to left, monogram of MI. Good Very Fine, scratch on Reverse Marcellesi 28; Price 2150.

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14 Kings of Macedon. Pella or Amphipolis. Time of Philip V - Perseus 187-167 BC. Tetrobol AR 16 mm, 2,40 g Macedonian shield; on boss, MA - KE and club / Macedonian helmet left; above, two monograms and below, monogram and trident. Very Fine HGC 3, 324.

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15 Kings of Paeonia. Damastion or Astibos. Audoleon 315-286 BC. Tetrobol AR 12 mm, 1,85 g Head of Athena facing 3/4 left, wearing triple-crested Attic helmet / Forepart of horse to right, monogram below. Nearly Very Fine HGC 3.1, 155. Audoleon, the king of the ancient kingdom of Paeonia, ruled from 315 to 285 or 284 BC, succeeding his father Patraus under unclear circumstances. In 310 BC, he sought assistance from Cassander, the King of Macedonia, to repel an invasion by the Illyrian Autariatae. Survivors of the conflict were resettled by Cassander in the border territory of Parorbelia. Following a significant naval victory near Salamis in Cyprus in 306 BC, where Demetrius Poliocreates defeated Ptolemy Soter, Audoleon declared himself king to assert Paeonia's independence. This change was reflected in his currency, with later coinage imitating that of Alexander the Great. Audoleon's adoption of the royal title was part of a broader Hellenization process that integrated Paeonia with the Greek-speaking world, evident in his connections with Hellenistic monarchs and Athens. In 294 BC, Audoleon joined a coalition against Demetrius, who had proclaimed himself king after murdering Cassander's son. Audoleon supported Athens during a blockade by Demetrius in 287 BC, providing essential grain supplies. The Athenians, in gratitude, honored Audoleon and his courtier. Notably, an inscription records that Audoleon received Athenian citizenship, a golden wreath, and a bronze equestrian statue in the Agora. Audoleon's last mention occurs before his death in 285 or 284 BC. He had at least three children, including a daughter married to Pyrrhus, the Epirote king, as a strategic alliance.

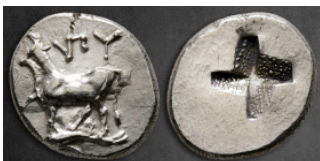


16 Thrace. Apollonia Pontica circa 480-450 BC. Drachm AR 14 mm, 3,10 g Upright anchor; A to left, crayfish to right / Facing gorgoneion. Very Fine SNG BMC Black Sea 157; HGC 3.2, 1323. Apollonia Pontica, known today as Sozopol, holds a special place in the annals of history as an ancient Greek colony and later, a Roman city. Its location along the western coast of the Black Sea, in what is now modern Bulgaria, played a crucial role in its development and significance. Founded in the 7th century BC by Greek settlers from Miletus, Apollonia Pontica was dedicated to the Greek god Apollo, from whom it derived its name. "Pontica" signified its coastal position, and this strategic location made it a bustling trading and commercial hub. Apollonia Pontica was particularly well-known for its exports, including grain, fish, and wine. But the city's allure extended beyond its economic prowess. It became a cradle of culture and learning, nurturing the talents of renowned philosophers and artists. Its school of philosophy wielded influence in the Hellenistic world, leaving an indelible mark on the intellectual landscape. With the rise of the Roman Empire, Apollonia Pontica fell under Roman dominion, embracing Roman culture and architecture. Throughout this period, the city continued to flourish and evolve. Christianity also took root in Apollonia Pontica, and the city played a pivotal role in the early spread of the Christian faith. Numerous churches and Christian communities emerged, leaving behind traces of this religious heritage. Today, Apollonia Pontica, or Sozopol, is a treasure trove for archaeologists and history enthusiasts. Its archaeological site features remarkably well-preserved remnants of ancient fortifications, public buildings, houses, and early Christian basilicas, offering a captivating window into the past. Moreover, Apollonia Pontica's legacy is celebrated through modern cultural events like the Apollonia Arts Festival, a testament to its enduring influence on the arts and culture. It remains a destination where ancient history and contemporary festivities harmoniously coexist, drawing visitors from all corners of the world.



17 Thrace. Byzantion circa 387-340 BC. Half Siglos AR 15 mm, 2,36 g Bull standing left on dolphin left / Quadripartite incuse square. Very Fine Schönert-Geiss, Byzantion 256-590; HGC 3, 1390. Byzantion, nestled strategically on the European side of the Bosphorus Strait, emerged as a pivotal ancient city with a narrative spanning centuries. Originally founded by Megara around 657 BC, it bore the name Byzantion. The city underwent a transformative journey, briefly being named Augusta Antonina during Roman Emperor Septimius Severus's reign but reverting to its original name over time. However, the zenith of Byzantion's historical significance came under the rule of Roman Emperor Constantine the Great in AD 330. He refashioned and elevated the city, bestowing upon it the illustrious name Constantinople. This marked the genesis of its role as the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire, later renowned as the Byzantine Empire. Constantinople thrived as a political, economic, and cultural nucleus for over a millennium. Emperor Theodosius II fortified the city with the formidable Theodosian Walls, pivotal in safeguarding Constantinople through numerous sieges. Integral to the city's identity is the iconic Hagia Sophia, initially commissioned by Emperor Justinian I in AD 537. This architectural marvel transitioned from cathedral to mosque and currently stands as a museum. Constantinople served as a strategic nexus for trade between East and West, fostering economic prosperity. Its cultural tapestry was woven from the threads of Greek, Roman, Byzantine, and Ottoman influences, creating a unique crossroads. The city's historical odyssey reached its denouement in 1453 when Constantinople succumbed to the Ottoman Empire. Istanbul, as it was renamed, became the torchbearer of a new era while echoing the ancient whispers of Byzantion's enduring legacy.

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18 Thrace. Byzantion circa 340-320 BC. Half Siglos AR 14 mm, 2,51 g ΠΥ, bull standing left on dolphin left / Stippled quadripartite incuse square. Good Very Fine Schönert-Geiss, Byzantion 256-590; HGC 3, 1390.

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19 Thrace. Mesembria circa 400-300 BC. Diobol AR 10 mm, 1,29 g Facing Corinthian helmet / META within four-spoked wheel. Very Fine HGC 3.2, 1560; Karayotov I 37-78; SNG BM Black Sea 268-9; SNG Stancomb 219-21. In the annals of ancient Greece, the Corinthian helmet emerges as both a relic of warfare and a canvas for artistic expression. Originating in the bustling city-state of Corinth, this iconic headpiece found its place on the battlefield during the 8th to 4th centuries BCE, adorning the heads of formidable Greek hoplites. Its design, with a distinctive nose guard, cheekpieces, and neck guard, rendered it instantly recognizable. Beyond its practicality in providing exceptional protection for the head and face, the Corinthian helmet became a symbol of status and prestige. Warriors, bedecked with ornate crests and embellishments, showcased not only their commitment to protection but also their wealth and social standing. Yet, the Corinthian helmet was not without its limitations. The small eye openings restricted visibility, compelling wearers to rely on their comrades for a comprehensive field of vision. Nevertheless, its historical significance echoed through Homer's Iliad, immortalizing its role in the heroic narratives of the Trojan War. As the centuries unfolded, the Corinthian helmet witnessed an evolution in both design and cultural representation. Adaptations in art, from pottery to sculptures, depicted its enduring significance in ancient Greek culture. Over time, the helmet gave way to newer styles, like the open-faced Attic helmet, as warriors sought enhanced visibility and comfort.



20 The Thracian Chersonese. Chersonesos circa 386-338 BC. Hemidrachm AR 13 mm, 2,27 g Forepart of lion to right, head reverted / Quadripartite incuse square with alternating raised and sunken quarters; star in one quarter, pellet and I in opposite quarter. Very Fine McClean 4107; HGC 3.2, 1437. The Thracian Chersonese, a historic peninsula located in the northwest part of present-day Turkey, holds a rich tapestry of ancient tales and significant events. Known for its strategic and cultural importance, this region has witnessed the ebb and flow of civilizations across the centuries. In antiquity, the Thracian Chersonese was primarily inhabited by the Thracians, an ancient Indo-European people. However, its historical prominence heightened during the classical period when the city of Lysimachia was founded by Lysimachus, one of Alexander the Great's Diadochi (successors), in the 4th century BC. One of the pivotal moments etched in the history of the Thracian Chersonese is the legendary city of Troy, located nearby. The Trojan War, chronicled in Homer's "Iliad," unfolded on the plains of Troy, leaving an indelible mark on the region's narrative. During the Peloponnesian War in the 5th century BC, the Athenians established a colony named Sestos on the Chersonese to secure control over the vital Hellespont, a strategic waterway connecting the Aegean Sea to the Sea of Marmara and beyond. The Thracian Chersonese also played a role in the campaigns of Alexander the Great, and later, it became part of the Byzantine Empire. However, its fate continued to shift hands, witnessing the rise of the Ottoman Empire. In the 15th century, the Ottoman Turks, led by Mehmed the Conqueror, captured the Thracian Chersonese, solidifying their dominance in the region. Today, the archaeological remnants and historical sites scattered across the peninsula stand as silent witnesses to the dynamic and diverse history of the Thracian Chersonese.



21 The Thracian Chersonese. Chersonesos circa 386-338 BC. Hemidrachm AR 13 mm, 2,12 g Forepart of lion to right, head reverted / Quadripartite incuse square with alternating raised and sunken quarters; AF monogram in one quarter, pellet in opposite quarter. Very Fine McClean 4060; SNG von Post 76; SNG Copenhagen 826; HGC 3.2, 1437.

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22 Islands off Thrace. Thasos circa 412-404 BC. Drachm AR 15 mm, 3,33 g Ithyphallic satyr advancing right, carrying off protesting nymph / Quadripartite incuse square. Very Fine Le Rider, Thasiennes 7; HGC 6, 335. The term "ithyphallic" refers to the representation of an erect penis in art or literature. In ancient Greek and Roman art and mythology, satyrs were often depicted as half-human, half-goat creatures with exaggerated sexual characteristics, including an erect penis, which is where the term "ithyphallic satyr" comes from. Satyrs were associated with the Greek god Dionysus, who was the god of wine, fertility, and revelry. They were often depicted as mischievous, lustful, and intoxicated beings who would engage in various forms of debauchery and revelry. Their ithyphallic representations in art were meant to emphasize their connection to fertility and the hedonistic aspects of life. Ithyphallic satyrs are a common motif in ancient art, particularly in the context of pottery and frescoes from Greece and Rome. These depictions were a reflection of the culture and beliefs of the time, celebrating fertility, pleasure, and the wild, untamed aspects of human nature.

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23 Thraco-Macedonian Region. Berge (Siris or Lete) circa 525-480 BC. Stater AR 20 mm, 9,15 g Ithyphallic satyr standing to right, grasping right wrist of nymph fleeing to right with right hand and touching her chin with left; pellets above, to left, and to right / Quadripartite incuse square divided diagonally. Very Fine Smith Group 5; Peykov A0020; AMNG III, 14 ('Lete'); SNG ANS 956 ('Lete'); Svoronos 16; Traité I, 1569 ('Lete'); Psoma p. 61 (Berge); HGC 3, 531 ("Lete").

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24 Kings of Thrace. Ainos. Macedonian. Lysimachos 305-281 BC. Struck circa 305-281 BC Tetradrachm AR 31 mm, 16,79 g Diademed head of deified Alexander right, with horn of Ammon / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΛΥΣΙΜΑΧ[ΟΥ], Athena Nikephoros seated to left on throne, leaning her left elbow on her shield decorated with lion's head and holding Nike, crowning the king's name, in her right; enthroned cult image before; goat's head before knee to right. Extremely Fine Mueller 116. Lysimachus, born around 361/360 BC in Pella, was a military commander under Alexander the Great and one of his Diadochi. He became King of Thrace in 306/5 BC and later King of Macedonia in 285/4 BC. Lysimachus, a Thessalian by birth, accompanied Alexander on his conquests in Asia, eventually becoming part of the young king's elite guard. After Alexander's death in 323 BC, Lysimachus received the Satrapy of Thrace from Perdikkas, and he expanded his control through campaigns against neighboring threats. In the complex Diadochi Wars, Lysimachus initially maintained neutrality and later allied with Cassander and Ptolemy against Antigonos. His strategic control over Thrace played a crucial role. Lysimachus rose to prominence in the third Diadochi War (316-311 BC), cutting off Antigonos from Europe. Victories in Thrace secured his position, and he founded his capital, Lysimacheia, on the Gallipoli Peninsula. In the fourth Diadochi War (307-301 BC), Lysimachus, along with Cassander and Ptolemy, faced Antigonos. The decisive Battle of Ipsos in 301 BC led to Antigonos' defeat and death. Lysimachus gained control of western Asia Minor. However, his alliance with Seleucus turned into rivalry. He married Arsinoe II, the daughter of Ptolemy, after separating from Amastris. Lysimachus expanded his influence into Macedonia and Ephesus, relocating its population. Internal conflicts and losses in Asia Minor occurred as Bithynian and Pontic rulers asserted independence. Lysimachus faced challenges from the Getae but achieved a lasting peace. Aligning with Pyrrhus, he regained control from Demetrius Poliorcetes in 287 BC. As Lysimachus tried to expand into Macedonia, his daughter's marriage aimed at securing power, but internal conflicts persisted. His growing mistrust led to arbitrary actions, including the murder of his own son, Agathocles. In the sixth Diadochi War, a conflict with Seleucus erupted. Lysimachus faced defeat in the Battle of Corupedium in February 281 BC, leading to his death. Seleucus granted him a royal burial in Lysimacheia. The Seleucids gained control of Asia Minor, while Thrace and Macedonia fell to Ptolemy Keraunos. later succumbing to a Celtic invasion in 279 BC.



25 Kings of Thrace. Alexandria Troas. Macedonian. Lysimachos 305-281 BC. Tetradrachm AR 26 mm, 17,05 g Diademed head of deified Alexander right, with horn of Ammon / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΛΥΣΙΜΑΧΟΥ, Athena Nikephoros seated to left on throne, leaning her left elbow on her shield decorated with lion's head and holding Nike, crowning the king's name, in her right; ME monogram to left; ΘΕ monogram on throne. Very Fine, scratch and chip at edge on revers Thompson 156-8. "Alexander already appears to us as a god on these coins; The ram's horn that he wears over the royal armband (the diadem) clearly identifies him as the son of the ram-shaped god Amun (Zeus Ammon). In addition, the divine is emphasized by long, moving, curly hair - a characteristic of the youthful Dionysus - as well as by the large, deep-set, upward-looking eyes, which were a stylistic device for expressing pathos in Hellenism. Alexander's characteristic forelock, the anastole, is also clearly visible on these coins. It is remarkable that Lysimachus, as king, did not follow the example of kings Ptolemy I Soter and Demetrius Poliorketes and how they put his own portrait on his coins, but instead had it minted with the image of the deified Alexander. However, while the obverse "pays homage" to the god Alexander, the reverse clearly makes reference to Lysimachus and his overwhelming victory at Ipsos (301 BC). Because the Nike crowns his name with the victor's laurel, but is itself on the hand of the powerful goddess Athena, it becomes clear that it was actually Athena who gave Lysimachus the victory. And since Ipsos was his greatest victory, this depiction on the reverse of the coin is probably an allusion to that outstanding victory of Ipsos. The iconographic message of this coin: the kingship of Lysimachus is legitimate because it is derived from the deified Alexander and Athena is the powerful patron and protector of the king. Or to put it another way, Lysimachus, the former bodyguard, general and close confidant of Alexander the Great, is the rightful king and successor of Alexander and a favorite of the goddess Athena. Artistically speaking, these coins, with their idealized portrait of the deified Alexander and Nike-wearing Athena, are undoubtedly among the greatest of early Hellenism and among the most beautiful and impressive of all of Greek antiquity." - quote: Michael Kurt Sonntag for muenzen-online.de



26 Thessaly. Larissa circa 400-380 BC. Drachm AR 19 mm, 6,05 g Thessalos, with cloak and petasos over his shoulders, leaping left, both feet on the ground, holding a rushing bull by a band around its head / ΛΑΠΙΣΑΙΑ, bridled horse with trailing rein galloping right; all within incuse square. Good Very Fine BCD Thessaly II, 372.5; Herrmann Group III H, pl. III, 20. Thessaly, an ancient region in Greece, holds a significant association with horses in Greek mythology and history. The fertile plains of Thessaly were renowned for breeding and producing exceptional horses, making them a central element in the region's cultural identity. In Greek mythology, Thessaly is often connected to the legendary figure of Centaurs, mythical beings with the upper body of a human and the lower body of a horse. The Centaurs were said to inhabit the mountainous and forested regions of Thessaly, embodying a wild and untamed nature. One of the most famous Centaurs, Chiron, was known for his wisdom, healing abilities, and gentleness, setting him apart from the more unruly members of his kind. Additionally, Thessaly played a crucial role in ancient Greek cavalry. The Thessalian cavalry was highly esteemed in the military, known for its skillful use of horses in battle. Thessalian cavalry units were employed by various Greek city-states, and their expertise contributed to the success of many military campaigns. The prominence of horses in Thessalian culture is also reflected in historical events. The Thessalian League, a confederation of Thessalian city-states, was a notable political and military force in ancient Greece, partly due to the strength of its cavalry.

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27 Thessaly. Larissa circa 360-356 BC. Drachm AR 20 mm, 5,48 g ΛΑΠΙΣΑΙΩΝ, Bull leaping right / Thessalian horseman riding right, holding goad. Very Fine BCD Thessaly II 186; HGC 4, 449.

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28 Thessaly. Thessalian League circa 150-100 BC. Tima-, magistrate Drachm AR 17 mm, 3,93 g Laureate head of Apollo right; monogram behind / ΘΕΣΣΑ - ΛΩΝ, Athena Itonia right; two stars above, T-I/M-A across lower field. Very Fine HGC 4, 213. The Thessalian League was an ancient Greek confederation of city-states in the Thessaly region of central Greece. Established during the Hellenistic period, it played a crucial role in the political and military landscape of Thessaly. The league was formed as a defensive alliance, primarily to protect Thessaly's interests and maintain stability within the region. Thessaly, known for its fertile plains and horse breeding, was often a target for external powers seeking to control its resources and strategic position. The exact date of the league's foundation is not definitively known, but it likely emerged in the late 4th or early 3rd century BC. The city of Larissa, a major polis in Thessaly, was a key player in the league, and its leadership was crucial for the confederation's success. The Thessalian League faced numerous challenges and conflicts, both internal and external. Thessaly was often caught in the power struggles among the Hellenistic successor states, such as Macedonia and various Greek city-states. Additionally, the league contended with regional rivalries among its member cities. Notably, during the Chremonidean War (267-261 BCE), the Thessalian League found itself entangled in the conflicts between Macedonia and the Achaean League. Thessaly's strategic importance made it a valuable prize for larger powers seeking to expand their influence in Greece. Over time, the league's dynamics evolved, influenced by shifting alliances and geopolitical changes. By the Roman period, Thessaly became an integral part of the Roman Republic's sphere of influence.



29 Thessaly. Thessalian League circa 150-100 BC. Kephalos and Themisto-, magistrates Stater AR 22 mm, 6,12 g Head of Zeus right, wearing oak wreath / ΘΕΣΣΑΛΩΝ / ΚΕΦ-ΑΛΟΥ / ΘΕΜΙΣΤΟ, Athena Itonia advancing right, holding shield and preparing to hurl spear; star above. Very Fine BCD Thessaly II 882.3; HGC 4, 210.

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30 Akarnania. Anaktorion circa 350-300 BC. Stater AR 22 mm, 8,15 g Pegasus flying left; monogram below / Helmeted head of Athena left; behind, monogram and bow. Nearly Very Fine Pegasi 66; HGC 4, 763.

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31 Lokris. Locri Opuntii (Epicnemidii) circa 340-330 BC. Obol AR 10 mm, 0,65 g Amphora with grape bunch and ivy leaf hanging from mouth / Star of twelve rays. Very Fine HGC 4, 977. The amphora, an iconic vessel from ancient Greece, stands as a testament to the practical ingenuity and artistic sensibilities of the ancient Mediterranean world. Its name, derived from the Greek words "amphi" and "pherein" meaning "on both sides" and "to carry," perfectly encapsulates its distinctive design featuring two handles on either side for ease of carrying. Crafted with a tall body, a narrow neck, and a pointed or rounded bottom, the amphora's shape allowed for efficient stacking and storage. Its functionality was enhanced by the presence of two handles, strategically positioned to facilitate lifting and pouring. The elongated neck leading to a relatively narrow mouth served a dual purpose—enabling controlled pouring of liquids and minimizing spillage. Amphorae were versatile containers, utilized for storing and transporting a variety of goods, ranging from liquids like wine and oil to grains. The different types of amphorae catered to specific needs, with variations such as the Panathenaic amphora, which held a distinctive form and was awarded as a prize in the Panathenaic Games. What adds an extra layer of richness to the amphora's legacy is its ornate decoration. Many amphorae were adorned with intricate artistic depictions, portraying scenes from mythology, daily life, or cultural events. These artistic embellishments not only served an aesthetic function but also provided valuable insights into the contents or the purpose of the vessel.



32 Phokis. Federal Coinage circa 449-447 BC. Obol AR 10 mm, 0,88 g Φ - O, facing head of bull / Forepart of boar right within incuse square. Very Fine BCD Lokris 246; HGC 4, 1074. Federal coinage is the practice of minting coins that were issued collectively by a group of cities or states, forming a political or regional alliance. These coins were a tangible representation of the unity and cooperation among the participating entities. Such federations were common in ancient Greece, where independent city-states often collaborated for mutual benefits. The reasons for creating federal coinage were multifaceted. First and foremost, it facilitated economic transactions within the alliance, as a standardized currency made trade and commerce more efficient. Additionally, these coins often bore symbols or inscriptions that highlighted the collective identity or shared values of the participating regions. The Federal Coinage of Phocis was a coinage system established during the time of the Delphic Amphictyony. The Amphictyonic League was a religious association of Greek city-states, and Phocis was one of its members. One of the league's most famous activities was the administration and protection of the sanctuary of Apollo at Delphi. Phocis, situated near the influential oracle at Delphi, played a significant role in the religious and political affairs of ancient Greece. The city issued coins as part of the federal coinage system implemented by the Delphic Amphictyony. These coins among others were a means of financing the maintenance and administration of the sanctuary, which included the famed Oracle of Delphi.



33 Phokis. Federal Coinage circa 449-447 BC. Triobol or Hemidrachm AR 13 mm, 2,43 g Facing head of a bull / Φ-Φ-K[-I] Head of Artemis to right; all within incuse square. Very Fine HGC 4, 1038. "Phocis was mainly pastoral. The twenty-two confederate Phocian towns held their periodic synedrion (assembly) in a building called Phokikon, near Daulis, and here, perhaps, rather than at any one of the Phocian towns, the federal mint may have been established. Money would be issued at this mint only on the occasions of the meetings of the synedrion, when it may be supposed that a concourse of people from all parts of the Phocian territory was gathered together, and that a fair or market was held for the exchange and purchase of commodities, as at Delphi during the Pythian festivals. The bull's head likely commemorates the sacrifice of a prize bull for the community on one of these occasions. Part was burned for the god, but eating the meat was a mandatory religious duty." - quote: forumancientcoins.com

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34 Euboea. Histiaia circa 300-100 BC. Tetrobol AR 15 mm, 2,42 g Wreathed head of the Nymph Histiaia right / ΙΣΤΙΑΙΕΩΝ, Nymph seated right on stern of galley; wing on prow. Very Fine HGC 4, 1525.

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35 Attica. Athens circa 454-404 BC. Tetradrachm AR 25 mm, 17,11 g Helmeted head of Athena right, with frontal eye / AΘE, Owl standing right, head facing; olive spray and crescent to left; all within incuse square. Very Fine Kroll 8; HGC 4, 1597. The owl, intimately entwined with the persona of the Greek goddess Athena, carries profound symbolism and intriguing facets in mythology and cultural history. As the goddess of wisdom, Athena adopted the owl as one of her sacred symbols, endowing it with the profound emblematic role of representing wisdom and foresight. The owl, particularly the Little Owl (*Athene noctua*), became synonymous with Athena, often depicted perched on her shoulder or accompanying her in artistic representations. The owl's symbolic significance extended to the aegis, a protective cloak or shield associated with Athena. Adorned with the head of the Gorgon Medusa and featuring an owl, the aegis underscored the goddess's protective and strategic attributes. In the realm of currency, the owl became an enduring feature on ancient Athenian coinage, known as the "owl drachma." This coin, adorned with Athena's owl, became a widely circulated and recognized currency, emphasizing the lasting impact of the owl as a symbol. The nocturnal nature of the owl, associated with darkness and mystery, further contributed to its symbolism. It was believed that Athena's owl possessed the ability to unveil hidden truths in the obscurity of the night. The owl's representation of stealth, silent flight, and keen hunting abilities also aligned with Athena's strategic warfare prowess. These qualities became emblematic of the goddess's approach to military endeavors, adding layers of depth to the owl's symbolism.

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36 Attica. Athens circa 454-404 BC. Tetradrachm AR 26 mm, 16,59 g Helmeted head of Athena right, with frontal eye / AΘE, Owl standing right, head facing; olive spray and crescent to left; all within incuse square. Very Fine Kroll 8; HGC 4, 1597.

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37 Attica. Athens circa 454-404 BC. Hemidrachm AR 11 mm, 1,88 g Helmeted head of Athena right, with frontal eye / A - Θ - E, owl standing facing between two olive branches. Fine Kroll 12; HGC 4, 1641.

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38 Attica. Athens circa 350-294 BC. Tetradrachm AR 23 mm, 16,81 g Helmeted head of Athena right / AΘE, owl standing right, head facing; olive sprig and crescent to left; all within incuse square. Very Fine Kroll -; HGC 4, 1599.

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39 Corinthia. Corinth circa 478-458 BC. Stater AR 20 mm, 7,85 g Pegasos flying right; koppa below / Head of Athena right, wearing Corinthian helmet. Very Fine Ravel 217; BMC 72; Calciati, Pegasi 70/1. Pegasus is a mythical creature from Greek mythology. It is a winged horse that is famous for its association with heroes and stories from ancient Greece. Pegasus is typically depicted as a magnificent white horse with wings, allowing it to fly. Pegasus has its origins in the myth of the Gorgon Medusa. According to the myth, Pegasus was born from the blood of Medusa after she was slain by the hero Perseus. Pegasus emerged from her neck after it was severed by Perseus' sword. One of the most famous stories involving Pegasus is its connection to the hero Bellerophon. With the help of the goddess Athena, Bellerophon tamed Pegasus and used the winged horse to defeat the fearsome monster Chimera. Pegasus also played a role in various other mythological tales and adventures.

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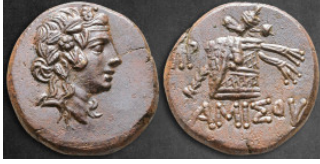


40 Messenia. Messene circa 191-183 BC. Bronze AE 23 mm, 6,45 g Diademed head of Demeter right / Zeus advancing right, holding sceptre and eagle on outstretched arm; monogram to left, tripod to right. Nearly Very Fine HGC 5, 576; BCD 715.

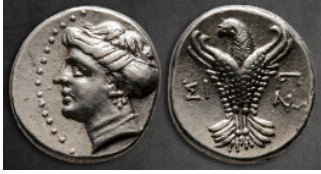
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41 Cimmerian Bosphoros. Pantikapaion circa 310-303 BC. Bronze Æ 19 mm, 5,89 g Head of bearded Satyr to right / Π-A-N, forepart of griffin to left; sturgeon to left below. Good Very Fine MacDonald 69; SNG BM Black Sea 869-71; SNG Stancomb 541-2; HGC 7, 113. In Greek mythology, satyrs and nymphs are distinct mythical beings. Satyrs are typically depicted as male woodland spirits with both human and goat-like features. They are known for their love of revelry and are often companions of the wine god Dionysus. Nymphs, on the other hand, are female nature spirits associated with various natural features like forests, rivers, and the sea. They are portrayed as beautiful and youthful women, protectors of their domains. Satyrs often engage in playful or amorous pursuits with nymphs, and these interactions are a common theme in Greek mythology and art.



42 Pontos. Amisos. Time of Mithradates VI Eupator circa 120-63 BC. Bronze Æ 23 mm, 9,02 g Head of Dionysos right, wearing wreath of ivy and fruit / AMIZOY, panther skin and thyrsos on cista mystica; to left, monogram Good Very Fine HGC 7, 243; SNG BM Black Sea 1207. The "cista mystica" is a sacred, often basket-like, container used in the ancient Mysteries of Dionysus and Orpheus in Greece. The term "cista" comes from the Greek word for "basket" or "box." The cista mystica played a symbolic and ritualistic role in these mystery religions. In the context of the Mysteries of Dionysus, participants would carry the cista mystica as part of their rituals, symbolizing a connection with the god Dionysus and the mysteries surrounding his worship. The contents of the cista mystica were likely sacred objects or symbols associated with the deity, but the exact details remain somewhat mysterious, as the inner workings of these mystery religions were closely guarded secrets. In the Mysteries of Orpheus, another religious tradition with secretive rites, the cista mystica was also employed. The followers of Orpheus believed in the transformative power of these mysteries, emphasizing spiritual purification and the attainment of higher knowledge. While the specifics of the cista mystica's use and its contents in these mystery religions remain elusive due to the secretive nature of the rituals, it is clear that the basket or container held profound symbolic significance in connection with the mysteries and the worship of Dionysus or Orpheus.



43 Paphlagonia. Sinope circa 330-250 BC. Hemidrachm AR 14 mm, 2,74 g Head of Nymph Sinope left / ΣΙΝΩ, sea eagle standing facing left; wings spread, head turned left; monogram to right. Good Very Fine SNG BM Black Sea 1496; HGC 7, 394. In Greek mythology, Sinope was a nymph who was associated with the region of Paphlagonia, located on the southern coast of the Black Sea (modern-day Turkey). Sinope is believed to have been the daughter of Asopus, a river god, and Metope. The mythological story of Sinope varies, but a common version involves her being pursued by the god Apollo. In order to escape his advances, she fled to the sea and prayed to the gods to be transformed into a seal. Her plea was granted, and she became a seal, finding refuge in the Black Sea. The city of Sinope, also located in Paphlagonia, was said to be founded by Autolykus, the son of Hermes, and it was named after the nymph Sinope. This city grew to become a significant Greek colony known for its trade, culture, and history.

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44 Paphlagonia. Sinope circa 330-250 BC. Trihemiobol AR 10 mm, 1,51 g Head of Nymph Sinope facing slightly left / ΣΙΝ[Ω], sea eagle standing facing left; wings spread, head turned left. Very Fine RG 40; HGC 7, 396.

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45 Bithynia. Kalchedon circa 367-340 BC. Drachm AR 14 mm, 3,84 g KA[ΛΧ], bull standing left on grain ear right; kerykeion and monogram to left / Quadripartite incuse square with stippled surface. Very Fine SNG BM Black Sea 104; HGC 7, 511.

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46 Kings of Bithynia. Nikomedeia. Nikomedes II Epiphanes 149-127 BC. Dated RY 187 = 111/110 BC Tetradrachm AR 31 mm, 16,61 g Diademed head right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ ΝΙΚΟΜΗΔΟΥ, Zeus standing facing, his head turned to left, holding wreath in his right hand and scepter in his left; to left, eagle standing on thunderbolt above monogram and ΖΠΡ (date). Good Very Fine HGC 7. Nikomedes II Epiphanes, the king of Bithynia around 149 to 127 BC, rebelled against his father, Prusias II, with the support of Rome. Initially sent to Rome to limit his influence, Nikomedes II gained favor with the Roman Senate. When his father attempted to assassinate him, the emissary Menas revealed the plot, leading Nikomedes II to rebel successfully with the help of Attalus II Philadelphus, the king of Pergamon. As a result, he ordered his father's execution in Nicomedia. Throughout his reign, Nikomedes II remained a loyal ally to Rome, assisting them against a rival claimant to the Pergamon throne, Eumenes III. Notably, Nikomedes II introduced the Bithynian era for dating on his coins, a system that persisted in parts of the Greek world until the 4th century AD. His son, Nikomedes III, succeeded him as king.

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47 Kings of Bithynia. Nikomedeia. Nikomedes II Epiphanes 149-127 BC. Dated RY 168 = 130/129 BC Tetradrachm AR 36 mm, 16,19 g Diademed head right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ ΝΙΚΟΜΗΔΟΥ, Zeus standing facing, his head turned to left, holding wreath in his right hand and scepter in his left; to left, eagle standing on thunderbolt above monogram and ΗΞΡ (date). Very Fine, scratch on obverse RecGen 40.29.

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48 Mysia. Kyzikos circa 600-550 BC. Hemihekte or 1/12 Stater EL 8 mm, 1,35 g Winged figure standing standing left, holding two tunnies by their tail / Incuse square. Very Fine Von Fritze I 27 (unlisted denomination); Boston MFA -; cf. SNG von Aulock 7268 (hekte); SNG France -.

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49 Mysia. Kyzikos circa 550-450 BC. Sixth Stater or Hekte EL 10 mm, 2,68 g Boar standing left on tunny left / Quadripartite incuse square. Very Fine, banker's mark on obverse Von Fritze I 90; Boston MFA 1465 = Warren 1561; SNG BN 225-6.

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50 Mysia. Lampsakos circa 400-200 BC. Diobol AR 12 mm, 1,57 g Janiform female head / ΛΑΜΨΑ, helmeted head of Athena right within incuse square. Good Very Fine SNG BN 1185-6. Janiform is an artistic or numismatic representation that depicts two faces placed back-to-back on a single object, often sharing a single neck or head. The term "Janiform" is derived from the Roman god Janus, who was often depicted with two faces, each looking in opposite directions, symbolizing his role as the god of transitions, beginnings, and doorways. In art and numismatics, janiform depictions are found in various cultures and time periods. They can appear on sculptures, coins, amulets, pottery, and other objects. The faces in janiform representations can be human, divine, or even mythological beings. The janiform motif often carries symbolic significance related to duality, transitions, or the interaction between two opposing forces. In some cases, it can symbolize past and future, life and death, or the merging of two aspects, such as rulership and divinity.

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51 Mysia. Parion circa 400-300 BC. Hemidrachm AR 13 mm, 2,36 g ΠΑ / ΠΙ, Bull standing left on ground line, head right / Facing gorgoneion. Very Fine SNG BN 1356-7; BMC 14.

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52 Lesbos. Mytilene circa 521-478 BC. Sixth Stater or Hekte EL 10 mm, 2,54 g Head of roaring lion right / Incuse head of calf right; rectangular punch behind. Very Fine Bodenstedt Em. 13; HGC 6, 938.

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53 Lesbos. Mytilene circa 454-428 BC. Sixth Stater or Hekte EL 10 mm, 2,48 g Female head right / Head of roaring lion right within incuse square. Very Fine Bodenstedt 49; HGC 6, 975.

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54 Lesbos. Mytilene circa 412-378 BC. Sixth Stater or Hekte EL 11 mm, 2,51 g Helmeted head of Athena right / Head of Artemis-Kybele right, wearing ornamented stephane; all within linear square border within incuse square. Very Fine Bodenstedt 73; HGC 6, 999.

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55 Ionia. Erythrai circa 400-300 BC. KYBEPNHΣ (Kybernis), magistrate Bronze Æ 11 mm, 1,58 g Head of Herakles right, wearing lion skin / EPY KYBEPNHΣ, club left above bow in bowcase right. Very Fine SNG Copenhagen 612. Herakles, a prominent figure in Greek mythology, embodies the epitome of strength, courage, and heroic exploits. Born of a union between Zeus and the mortal Alcmene, his divine lineage grants him unparalleled might, but it also becomes a source of strife due to the vengeful Hera, who resents his existence. Herakles is best known for his Twelve Labors, a series of arduous tasks imposed on him as punishment. These feats include overcoming mythical beasts like the Nemean Lion, capturing the elusive Golden Hind, and cleaning the seemingly insurmountable Augean stables. Each labor showcases his extraordinary abilities and indomitable spirit. Yet, Herakles' life is marked by tragic episodes, often instigated by Hera's relentless animosity. In moments of madness induced by divine intervention, he unwittingly causes harm to himself and those around him. Perhaps the most heart-wrenching is the unintentional murder of his wife and children, prompting a quest for redemption. Herakles' adventures extend beyond the Twelve Labors, encompassing participation in the Argonauts' quest for the Golden Fleece and rendering aid to both gods and mortals. Despite his flaws, his name, derived from "Glory of Hera," encapsulates the complex interplay of divine destiny and mortal struggles. In a tragic turn of events, Herakles meets his mortal end through an accident. However, his remarkable deeds and divine heritage secure him a place among the immortals on Mount Olympus, emphasizing themes of redemption and transformation.

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56 Ionia. Miletos circa 600-546 BC. Hemihekte - 1/12 Stater EL 7 mm, 1,14 g Head and paw of lion right / Head of stag right within incuse square. Very Fine Hilbert HH2.8 (A60/U2); SNG Kayhan 451.

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57 Ionia. Phokaia circa 625-522 BC. 1/96 Stater EL 5 mm, 0,13 g Head of seal left / Incuse square. Very Fine Bodenstedt Em. 2.2.

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58 Ionia. Phokaia circa 600-522 BC. 1/12 Stater EL 7 mm, 1,35 g Head of seal right / Incuse punch. Very Fine cf. Weber 6066 (head left and 1/24 Stater).

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59 Ionia. Phokaia circa 478-387 BC. Sixth Stater or Hekte EL 10 mm, 2,52 g Head of nymph left, her curly hair bound in an ampyx with a net behind, wearing pendant earring / Irregular quadripartite incuse square punch. Very Fine Bodenstedt 94.

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60 Ionia. Uncertain mint circa 650-600 BC. Fourrée 1/12 Stater EL 7 mm, 0,75 g Plain globular surface / Incuse square. Fine

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61 Ionia. Uncertain mint circa 625-600 BC. Sixth Stater or Hekte EL 10 mm, 2,58 g Raised clockwise swastika pattern / Quadripartite incuse square. Very Fine Rosen 314; Traité I 117-8; SNG von Aulock 1777; Boston MFA 1781.

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62 Ionia. Uncertain mint circa 625-600 BC. Twelfth Stater or Hemihekte EL 8 mm, 1,24 g Raised clockwise swastika pattern / Quadripartite incuse square. Nearly Extremely Fine BMC -; SNG von Aulock -; Boston MFA Supp. 163; Rosen -.

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63 Ionia. Uncertain mint circa 600-550 BC. 1/48 Stater EL Phokaic standard 5 mm, 0,30 g Head of roaring lion right / Quadripartite square punch. Very Fine Cf. Rosen 341-348; CNG E-376, lot 199 (same die and punch); Cf. M. Kerschner and K. Konuk, 'The Artemision of Ephesus' in *White Gold: Studies in Early Electrum Coinage* (2020), 64 (square incuse).

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64 Caria. Euromos circa 400-350 BC. Hemiobol AR 7 mm, 0,50 g Forepart of a boar moving to right / Bearded head of Lepsynos right; Λ to left. Very Fine SNG Kayhan I 754; Klein 513-4.

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65 Caria. Kindya circa 510-480 BC. Tetrobol AR 11 mm, 1,72 g Head of ketos to right / Geometric pattern within incuse square. Good Very Fine SNG Kayhan 813-4. In ancient Greek mythology, a "ketos" (plural: ketoi) refers to a sea monster, often depicted as a giant sea serpent or a creature with a combination of fish and serpent features. The concept of the ketos was prevalent in Greek mythology and art, and it had a significant presence in various stories and legends. One of the most famous tales involving a ketos is the story of Andromeda. According to the myth, Andromeda, the daughter of King Cepheus and Queen Cassiopeia of Ethiopia, was chained to a rock as a sacrifice to a ketos. The sea monster was sent by the god Poseidon in response to Cassiopeia's boasting that her daughter was more beautiful than the Nereids (sea nymphs). Andromeda was later rescued by the hero Perseus, who slew the ketos and saved her from her fate. Ketoi were often associated with the perils of the sea and represented the dangers that sailors and travelers faced while navigating treacherous waters. They were also symbolic of chaos and the untamed forces of nature.

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66 Caria. Kindya circa 510-480 BC. Tetrobol AR 12 mm, 1,72 g Head of ketos to right / Geometric pattern within incuse square. Very Fine SNG Kayhan 813-4.

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67 Caria. Knidos circa 500 BC. Diobol AR 10 mm, 1,32 g Head of roaring lion to right / Archaic head of Aphrodite to right. Very Fine SNG Kayhan 817; SNG Copenhagen 249 -250. Aphrodite, the captivating goddess of love and beauty in ancient Greek mythology, holds a prominent place among the Twelve Olympian deities. Legend tells of her mysterious birth, emerging fully formed and breathtakingly beautiful from the sea foam near Cyprus, an event immortalized in art as the "Birth of Venus." Born of divine lineage, Aphrodite is often regarded as the daughter of Zeus, king of the gods, and Dione, a goddess associated with femininity. Alternatively, some myths describe her origin as arising from the castrated genitals of Uranus, the sky god. Aphrodite is characterized by irresistible beauty and is often symbolically linked to doves, swans, roses, and myrtles, with doves specifically representing love and peace. Her romantic entanglements are a recurring theme, most notably with Ares, the god of war, resulting in the birth of children, including Eros (Cupid), the god of love. Aphrodite's worship extended across various cults in ancient Greece, with dedicated centers in Cyprus, Corinth, and Cythera, involving rites and festivals that celebrated love, beauty, and fertility. The myth of Eros and Psyche explores themes of love and trust, emphasizing the challenges faced by the mortal princess Psyche. Additionally, the renowned Venus de Milo statue is often associated with Aphrodite, symbolizing classical beauty and grace. Aphrodite's influence extends beyond mythology into art, literature, and philosophy. She remains a timeless symbol of love's potency, the embodiment of beauty, and a muse inspiring artistic expression throughout history. From ancient tales to timeless masterpieces, Aphrodite's legacy endures as a testament to the enduring power of love and the pursuit of beauty.

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68 Islands off Caria. Rhodos. Kamiros circa 550-500 BC. Trihemiobol AR 11 mm, 1,39 g Fig leaf / Incuse square. Very Fine SNG Keckman 320-1; cf. SNG Copenhagen 714-5 (hemiobol); HGC 6, 1387.

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69 Islands off Caria. Rhodos. Kamiros circa 550-500 BC. Obol AR
7 mm, 0,47 g Fig leaf / Incuse square. Good Very Fine HGC 6,
1392. SNG Keckman 328-34. SNG von Aulock 2781.

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70 Kings of Lydia. Sardeis. Kroisos 560-546 BC. Siglos or Half Stater AR 16 mm, 5,32 g Confronted foreparts of a lion and a bull / Two incuse squares, one larger than the other. Nearly Extremely Fine Berk 23; Rosen 663-5; SNG Kayhan 1024-6. Kroisos, the last king of Lydia, held sway over a prosperous kingdom in western Anatolia from around 595 BC to 546 BC. His reign was marked by notable achievements, with Lydia becoming renowned for its wealth. The phrase "as rich as Croesus" reflects the opulence associated with his name. Under Kroisos, Lydia expanded its influence, conquering Ionian Greek cities along the western coast of Anatolia. Notable among these conquests were cities like Ephesus and Miletus, which fell under Lydia's dominion. Kroisos also engaged in diplomatic relations with various Greek city-states, and his interactions with the Oracle of Delphi are particularly noteworthy. The Oracle's response, perceived as a prediction of victory over the Persians, played a pivotal role in Kroisos's decision to wage war against Cyrus the Great, the formidable leader of the Persian Empire. However, the Battle of Thymbra in 546 BC marked a turning point. Kroisos suffered defeat, and Lydia succumbed to Persian rule. The tale of Kroisos is intricately linked with the famous incident involving the Oracle of Delphi. Seeking guidance before the war, Kroisos received an ambiguous prophecy that a great empire would be destroyed. The unforeseen consequence was the downfall of his own kingdom. Following his defeat, Kroisos became a captive of Cyrus, and the details of his fate vary among historical accounts. Some suggest he narrowly escaped execution through his actions or divine intervention. The rise and fall of Kroisos and Lydia serve as a poignant chapter in the ancient Near East's historical narrative, illustrating the uncertainties of fate and the consequences of relying on oracles. The legacy of Kroisos endures as a cautionary tale, emphasizing the unpredictable nature of power and fortune in the annals of ancient history.



71 Kings of Lydia. Sardeis. Kroisos circa 560-546 BC. Siglos AR 16 mm, 5,29 g Confronted foreparts of a lion, on the left, and a bull, on the right. Rev. Two incuse squares of unequal size. Very Fine Rosen 663-665; SNG Copenhagen 456; SNG Kayhan 1024-1026; SNG von Aulock 2877-9; Berk 23; GRPC Lydia S3.

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72 Kings of Lydia. Sardeis. Kroisos 560-546 BC. 1/12 Stater AV 6 mm, 0,89 g Confronted foreparts of lion right and bull left / Two square punches. Very Fine SNG Copenhagen -, Weidauer -, Slg. Rosen -; Traité -, SNG Kayhan -, Gulbenkian 759.

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73 Lycia. Lycian League. Olympos circa 167-81 BC. Drachm AR 17 mm, 2,34 g Laureate head of Apollo right, with bow and quiver over shoulder / ΟΛΥΜΠΗ, kithara, palm branch to left, trophy to right; all within incuse square. Good Very Fine Troxell 45.

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74 Lycia. Lycian League. Phaselis circa 167-81 BC. Drachm AR 15 mm, 2,49 g Laureate head of Apollo right, with bow and quiver over shoulder / ΦΑΣΗΛΙ, kithara, Isis crown to left, torch to right; all within incuse square. Very Fine Troxell 47.

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75 Pisidia. Selge circa 350-300 BC. Obol AR 10 mm, 0,99 g Facing gorgoneion / Helmeted head of Athena right; astragalos to left. Very Fine SNG BN 1930.

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76 Lycaonia. Eikonion circa 100-0 BC. Bronze Æ 15 mm, 3,77 g Head of Zeus to right / ΕΙΚΟΝΙΕΩΝ, Perseus standing front, head to left, holding harpa in his right hand and head of Medusa with his left; to outer left, HK. Very Fine SNG Paris -; Von Aulock, Lykaonien 242.

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77 Cilicia. Korykos circa 100-0 BC. Bronze Æ 20 mm, 7,14 g
Turreted head of Tyche right; A to left / [K]OPYKIΩTΩ[N], Hermes
standing left, holding phiale and kerykeion; to left, EV above ΕΠΙ
above EP. Very Fine SNG BN 1075-6.

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78 Cilicia. Seleukeia ad Kalykadnon circa 200-100 BC. Bronze Æ
22 mm, 7,94 g ΣΑ, helmeted head of Athena right / ΣΕΛΕΥΚΕΩΝ
ΤΩΝ ΠΡΟΣ ΤΩΙ ΚΑΛΥΚΑΔΝΩΙ, Nike advancing left, holding branch;
ΔΙΟΦ / ΗΡΑ to left. Very Fine SNG BN 901f.

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79 Cilicia. Tarsos. Pharnabazos 380-373 BC. Obol AR 10 mm, 0,72 g Baal of Tarsos seated left holding sceptre / Head of Aphrodite left wearing stephanos, earring and necklace. Very Fine Traité pl.CXIV, 11. Pharnabazos was a prominent Persian military commander and satrap during 4th century BC. He played a significant role in various events of the time, particularly during the Peloponnesian War and its aftermath. Pharnabazos initially served as a satrap (governor) of Phrygia, a region in western Anatolia, under the Achaemenid Persian Empire. During the Peloponnesian War (431-404 BC) between Athens and Sparta, Pharnabazos aligned himself with the Spartan side. He became known for supporting and advising the Spartan fleet, and his involvement influenced the course of the conflict. One of the notable episodes involving Pharnabazos was the support he provided to the Spartan admiral Lysander. Under his guidance, the Spartan fleet gained strength and secured victories against the Athenians, contributing significantly to the ultimate defeat of Athens in 404 BC. After the Peloponnesian War, Pharnabazos continued to play a role in the power dynamics of the region. He was involved in the broader struggles between the Persian Empire and the rising power of Athens. Over time, he switched alliances opportunistically, sometimes aligning with the Athenians against the Spartans and vice versa. Pharnabazos also had interactions with notable historical figures such as the Spartan king Agesilaus II and the Athenian general Conon. His political maneuvers showcased the complex and ever-changing alliances in the tumultuous aftermath of the Peloponnesian War. While Pharnabazos is often remembered for his role in the conflicts between Greek city-states, his actions were deeply intertwined with the broader geopolitical landscape of the time, reflecting the intricate relationships between the Greek states and the Persian Empire.



80 Seleukid Kingdom. Sardeis. Seleukos II Kallinikos 246-226 BC. Bronze Æ 11 mm, 1,43 g Helmeted head of Athena right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΣΕΛΕΥΚΟΥ, anchor; monogram in outer left field and two monograms in outer right. Very Fine SC 663. Seleukos II Kallinikos held the throne as the King of the Seleucid Empire during a pivotal period in the Hellenistic world, reigning from 246 BC to 225 BC. His name, "Callinicus," which translates to "Beautiful Conqueror" in Greek, reflects the ambitions that underpinned his rule. His reign was not without its challenges. A fierce struggle for the throne erupted early on, with his uncle Antiochus Hierax attempting to seize power. This internal strife led to a period of civil conflict that threatened to destabilize the empire. Eventually, Seleucus managed to secure his position as ruler. The ongoing conflict with the Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt added to the complexities of his rule. The Seleucids and the Ptolemies had a long history of rivalry, and Seleucus II's reign saw continued clashes and territorial disputes, particularly in the Levant. However, the Seleucid Empire was already in decline by this time. The inability to quell internal rebellions and the challenges posed by external adversaries played a part in the empire's weakening stature. One of the historical artifacts that provides insight into Seleucus II's reign is the coinage issued during his rule, showcasing the blending of artistry and politics in the ancient world. Seleucus II Callinicus navigated a tumultuous period in the Hellenistic era, facing internal power struggles, external conflicts, and the overarching decline of the once-mighty Seleucid Empire. His reign, though marked by challenges, holds historical significance in understanding the evolving dynamics of the Hellenistic world.



81 Seleukid Kingdom. Antioch on the Orontes. Antiochos III Megas 222-187 BC. Tetradrachm AR 30 mm, 16,13 g Diademed head right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ, Apollo Delphios, nude but for chlamys draped from his waist, wearing laurel wreath and seated on omphalos to left, testing arrow with his right hand and resting his left on a bow leaning against the omphalos behind him, monogram to outer left. Nearly Extremely Fine SC 1042.1. Antiochus III Megas, widely known as Antiochus III the Great, was a significant figure in the Hellenistic period, reigning over the vast Seleucid Empire from 222 BC to 187 BC. His rule is characterized by ambitious military campaigns and strategic diplomacy, leaving a lasting impact on the ancient world. Antiochus III ascended the Seleucid throne during a challenging era, with the empire's influence waning. Determined to restore its former glory, he embarked on an impressive series of military expeditions. One of his most notable achievements was the successful invasion of Egypt, which led to the recovery of territories in Asia Minor, the Levant, and even parts of Greece. However, his ambitions weren't without opposition. The Fourth Syrian War against Egypt, though initially victorious, ultimately saw a defeat at the Battle of Raphia. Furthermore, his efforts to expand into Asia Minor brought him into direct conflict with the formidable Roman Republic. Antiochus III's conflict with Rome resulted in the Peace of Apamea in 188 BC, a treaty that forced him to surrender territories and curtailed his territorial aspirations. Despite the setbacks, his reign left a significant mark on the Seleucid Empire's history, symbolizing a brief resurgence of power. Tragically, Antiochus III's life came to an untimely end when he was assassinated in 187 BC during an eastern campaign. His legacy is one of both ambition and limitation, a ruler whose grand designs clashed with the growing might of Rome, shaping the destiny of the Seleucid Empire and the broader course of history in the Hellenistic era.



82 Seleukid Kingdom. Tyre. Antiochos VII Euergetes (Sidetes) 138-129 BC. Dated SE 177 (136/5 BC) Tetradrachm AR 29 mm, 13,98 g Diademed and draped bust right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ, Eagle standing left on prow left; palm frond over far shoulder; to left, monogram above club surmounted by Tyre monogram; to right, Α(ΣΥ monogram) above ZOP (date); monogram between legs. Very Fine HGC 9, 1074,

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83 Seleukid Kingdom. Damascus. Demetrios II Nikator, 2nd reign 129-125 BC. Dated SE 184 =129/8 BC Tetradrachm Æ 28 mm, 15,60 g Diademed, bearded head of Demetrios II to right / [ΒΑ]ΣΙΛΕ[ΩΣ] ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙ[ΟΥ] ΘΕΟΥ ΝΙΚΑΤΟΡΟΣ, Zeus seated left, holding Nike in his right hand and long scepter with his left, to outer left, monogram, in exergue ςΠΡ (date). Very Fine SC 2181.2b. Demetrius II Nikator, reigning over the Seleucid Empire around 160 BC, faced a tumultuous rule marked by internal strife and external conflicts. His initial return to power in 147 BC after the death of his father, Demetrius I Soter, led to harsh governance and opposition in Antioch. The emergence of rival claimants, including Tryphon supporting Antiochus VI, weakened his control over southern Syria. A pivotal shift occurred when Demetrius II confronted the Parthian threat under Mithridates I. Despite early successes, he was deceived and captured, spending a decade in Parthian captivity. His release aimed to exploit him as a rival against Tryphon, yet his return sparked further conflicts, culminating in a decisive defeat against Ptolemy VIII and Alexander II Zabinas. The Battle of Damascus in 126 BC sealed Demetrius II's fate, facing defeat and subsequent death near Tyre at the hands of Cleopatra Thea. His reign, characterized by internal discord and external challenges, contributed to the overall decline of the Seleucid Empire during the Hellenistic era.

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84 Seleukid Kingdom. Antioch on the Orontes. Antiochos VIII Epiphanes (Grypos) 121-97 BC. Tetradrachm AR 29 mm, 16,08 g Diademed head of Antiochos VIII to right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ / ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ - ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ Zeus Ouranios standing front, head to left, holding star in his right hand and long scepter in his left; above, crescent; to left, IE above A; all within laurel wreath. Very Fine SC 2298.2e. Antiochus VIII Grypus, a ruler of the Hellenistic Seleucid Empire, governed from 121 to 97 BC. Born to Demetrius II and Cleopatra Thea, he initially shared rule with his mother. However, apprehensive of her influence, Grypus had Cleopatra Thea poisoned in 121 BC. His reign was marked by political instability, including a civil war against his half-brother Antiochus IX. Married to Ptolemaic princess Tryphaena, Grypus faced familial strife. Tryphaena orchestrated the murder of Antiochus IX's wife, Cleopatra IV, leading to revenge with Tryphaena's own death. Grypus, in 102 BC, married Cleopatra Selene, the daughter of his aunt Cleopatra III of Egypt. Grypus' rise to power involved defeating Alexander II Zabinas in 123 BC. In 121 BC, he eliminated his influential mother, with conflicting accounts of her attempted poisoning. Known for his interest in toxicology, Grypus cultivated an image of opulence despite political challenges. His reign, though politically flawed, portrayed an idealized Hellenistic concept of a good life. The narrative includes anecdotes of Grypus' extravagant parties, where guests received food and even a camel as a gift. However, the empire faced financial strain due to such displays. In 116 BC, a civil war erupted with Antiochus IX's return, leading to a tumultuous period. Grypus met his demise in 96 BC when his half-brother killed him, marking the end of his reign.



85 Seleucid Kingdom. Antioch on the Orontes. Philip I Philadelphos 95-75 BC. Tetradrachm AR 26 mm, 15,51 g Diademed head right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΥ, Zeus Nikephoros seated left on throne, monogram below throne; Π in exergue; all within wreath. Good Very Fine SC 2464; HGC 9, 1320. Philip I Epiphanes Philadelphus, a Hellenistic Seleucid monarch, ruled Syria from 94 to 75 BC. Born between 124 and 109 BC, he faced early life challenges during the civil war between his father, Antiochus VIII, and uncle, Antiochus IX. Philip I ascended the throne with his twin brother Antiochus XI after the murder of Seleucus VI in 94 BC. Their reign aimed to avenge Seleucus VI, involving battles against Antiochus X. In 93 BC, Antiochus XI seized Antioch, but his death led to Philip I's alliance with Demetrius III. Antiochus X returned, killing Antiochus XI in 88 BC. Philip I then triumphed over Demetrius III, taking control of Antioch. Monetary reforms initiated by Philip I persisted until the Roman conquest in 64 BC. While traditionally considered to have died in 83 BC, the exact date remains uncertain. Philip I faced challenges from rival claimants, including Tigranes II of Armenia. His reign included strategic coinage modifications and control of the capital, but the circumstances of his death are unclear. Various theories propose his escape to Cilicia or a peaceful long reign, challenging the traditional narrative. The date of his death is debated, with some suggesting 75 BC. Philip I's rule epitomizes the tumultuous Seleucid Dynasty, marked by internal strife, alliances, and geopolitical complexities.



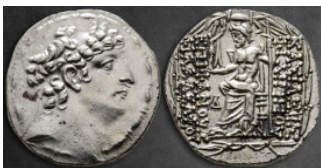
86 Seleukid Kingdom. Antioch on the Orontes. Philip I Philadelphos 95-75 BC. Tetradrachm AR 26 mm, 15,82 g Diademed head right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΥ, Zeus Nikephoros seated left on throne, monogram below throne; Π in exergue; all within wreath. Good Very Fine SC 2464; HGC 9, 1320. Zeus Nikephoros, is a title given to the Greek god Zeus, meaning "Zeus, the bringer of victory" or "Zeus, the bearer of victory." It highlights one of the many epithets associated with Zeus, who was the king of the gods in Greek mythology and the ruler of Mount Olympus. In ancient Greek religion and mythology, gods often had multiple epithets that emphasized different aspects of their powers or attributes. Zeus was no exception, and he had several titles and epithets reflecting his diverse roles and associations. As Zeus Nikephorus, he was revered as a deity who bestowed victory and success upon those who worshipped and honored him. The concept of Nikephorus, the bringer of victory, was highly regarded in ancient Greece, particularly during times of war and athletic competitions. Victorious athletes and military commanders would often attribute their success to the favor of Zeus Nikephorus, thanking him for guiding them to triumph.

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87 Seleukid Kingdom. Antioch on the Orontes. Philip I Philadelphos 95-75 BC. Tetradrachm AR 25 mm, 15,22 g Diademed head right / [B]ΑΣΙΛΕ[ΩΣ] ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟ[Υ], Zeus Nikephoros seated left, monogram below throne; N in exergue; all within wreath. Good Very Fine SC 2463.3e.

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88 Seleukid Kingdom. Antioch on the Orontes. Philip I Philadelphos 95-75 BC. Tetradrachm AR 29 mm, 15,49 g Diademed head right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΥ, Zeus Nikephoros seated left, monogram below throne; Δ in inner left field; all within wreath. Good Very Fine SC 2463.2c; HGC 9, 1319.

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89 Seleukid Kingdom. Uncertain mint in Cilicia, probably Tarsos. Philip I Philadelphos 95-75 BC. Struck ca. 94-87 BC Tetradrachm AR 26 mm, 15,83 g Diademed head right, within filleted border / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΥ, Zeus Nikephoros seated left on throne, holding Nike and sceptre; monogram below throne; all within laurel wreath border. Nearly Extremely Fine SC 2460.

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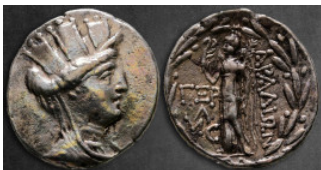
90 Seleukid Kingdom. Uncertain mint, possibly Tarsos. Philip I Philadelphos 95-75 BC. Tetradrachm AR 27 mm, 15,25 g Diademed head right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ [ΦΙ]ΛΑΔΕΛ[ΦΟΥ], Zeus Nikephoros seated left, monogram below throne, AP in to left; all within wreath. Very Fine SC 2460d.

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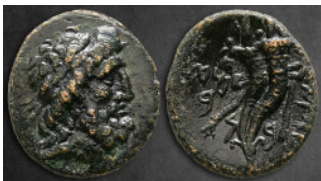
91 Seleucis and Pieria. Seleukeia Pieria circa 105-83 BC. Dated CY 11=99-98 BC Tetradrachm AR 28 mm, 14,29 g Veiled, turreted and draped bust of Tyche right / ΣΕΛΕΥΚΕΩΝ ΤΗΣ ΙΕΡΑΣ ΚΑΙ [Α]ΥΤΟΝΟΜΟΥ, thunderbolt resting atop draped throne, ΑΙ (date) below, Γ to lower right, all within wreath. Very Fine HGC 9, 1382; DCA 697.

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92 Phoenicia. Arados circa 97-96 BC. Dated CY 163 Tetradrachm AR 28 mm, 15,15 g Turreted, veiled, and draped bust of Tyche right / ΑΡΑΔΙΩΝ, Nike standing left, holding aphlaston with right hand and palm with left, ΓΞΡ, Λ and MC to left, all within wreath. Very Fine HGC 10, 72; BMC 211.

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93 Phoenicia. Marathos circa 130-24 BC. Bronze Æ 20 mm, 5,37 g Laureate head of Zeus right / Double cornucopia. Very Fine HGC 10, 195.

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94 Persia. Achaemenid Empire. Sardeis. Time of Darios I to Xerxes II 485-420 BC. Siglos AR 17 mm, 5,47 g Persian king in kneeling-running stance right, holding spear and bow, and with quiver over shoulder; test punches / Incuse rectangular punch. Very Fine Carradice Type IIIb; GRPC S23.

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95 Persia. Achaemenid Empire. Sardeis. Time of Darios II to Artaxerxes II 420-375 BC. Siglos AR 13 mm, 5,52 g Persian king or hero, wearing kidaris and kandys and with quiver over shoulder, in kneeling-running stance to right, holding dagger and strung bow; kerykeion to left / Incuse punch. Very Fine Carradice Type IV var. (no kerykeion); cf. CNG E-141, lot 98.

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96 Persia. Achaemenid Empire. Sardeis. Time of Darios II to Artaxerxes II 420-375 BC. Siglos AR 15 mm, 5,51 g Persian king or hero, wearing kidaris and kandys and with quiver over shoulder, in kneeling-running stance to right, holding dagger and strung bow; test punch / Incuse punch. Very Fine Carradice Type IVA; BMC Arabia 175-177; Klein 763; SNG Kayhan 1031.

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97 Persia. Achaemenid Empire. Sardeis. Time of Artaxerxes II to Artaxerxes III 375-340 BC. Siglos AR 16 mm, 5,88 g Persian king in kneeling-running stance right, holding bow and dagger / Incuse square punch. Very Fine Carradice Type IV.

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98 Kings of Armenia. Tigranocerta. Tigranes II "the Great" 95-56 BC. Struck circa 80-68 BC Tetradrachm AR 29 mm, 15,65 g Diademed and draped bust right, wearing Armenian tiara with five peaks and emblazoned with star between two eagles; within filleted border / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟ[Υ], Tyche of Artaxata seated to right on rock pile, holding palm branch, river god Araxes swimming to right below; no control marks; all within wreath. Very Fine SCADA Group 7, obv. die A49, var. (monogram on rock on all listed reverses with this die); Kovacs 75.3 var. (monogram on rock); M&D 12 var. (same). Tigranes II, known as Tigranes the Great, was a significant king of Armenia from 95 BC to 55 BC during the Hellenistic period. A member of the Artaxiad dynasty, he expanded Armenia's borders significantly, earning the titles of "Great King" and "King of Kings." Tigranes allied with Mithridates VI of Pontus, marrying his daughter Cleopatra. His empire reached from the Pontic Alps to Mesopotamia and from the Caspian Sea to the Mediterranean, making it the most powerful state east of the Roman Republic for a brief period. Tigranes' imperial ambitions brought him into direct conflict with Rome. In 69 BC, he suffered a decisive defeat at the hands of the Roman general Lucullus in the Battle of Tigranocerta. Subsequent battles against the Romans led by Pompey resulted in Tigranes' surrender in 66 BC. Pompey allowed him to retain a diminished Armenia as a Roman buffer state. Tigranes ruled as a Roman ally until his death in 55 BC. Known for his diverse imperial ideology, Tigranes blended Achaemenid, Parthian, and Greek influences in his court. He was a follower of Zoroastrianism and adopted the title of Philhellene. Tigranes left a legacy, founding cities including the capital Tigranocerta. His empire, though short-lived, is a source of pride for modern Armenian nationalists, symbolized by the expression "sea to sea Armenia," reflecting the vast extent of his kingdom from the Caspian to the Mediterranean.



99 Kings of Armenia. Tigranocerta. Tigranes II "the Great" 95-56 BC. Struck circa 80-68 BC Tetradrachm AR 25 mm, 15,69 g Diademed and draped bust right, wearing Armenian tiara with five peaks and emblazoned with star between two eagles; within filleted border / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ, Tyche of Artaxata seated to right on rock pile, holding palm branch, river god Araxes swimming to right below; Θ to inner right, ΔΗ monogram to lower left, all within wreath. Very Fine Kovacs 74.2; SCADA Group 1; CAA 19; ACV 31. Tigranokerta was a city founded by the Armenian King Tigranes the Great in the 1st century BC. The city's name is a combination of "Tigranes" and "kerta," meaning "city" in Armenian. The city was strategically located and served as an important center in the region. The Tyche of Tigranokerta coin features the image of the goddess Tyche. Tyche is often depicted as a crowned woman, representing the city's fortune and destiny. She is shown seated on a rock, holding a cornucopia or palm and a sometimes a rudder, symbolizing abundance and control over fate. The river-god Araxes frequently appeared on coins of various ancient cities located along the course of the river Araxes, known today as the Aras River. These depictions served to emphasize the significance of the river to the local culture and economy. The presence of the river-god on coins also demonstrated the connection between the natural world, divine forces, and the prosperity of the city or region.

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100 Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt. Tyre. Ptolemy II Philadelphos 285-246 BC. Tetradrachm AR 25 mm, 13,96 g Diademed head of Ptolemy I facing right, wearing aegis around neck / [ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ] ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ, Eagle with closed wings standing left on thunderbolt; to left, civic monogram above club, E A in right field. Very Fine cf. SNG Copenhagen 482-3.

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101 Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt. Alexandria. Ptolemy III Euergetes 246-221 BC. Tetradrachm Æ 38 mm, 47,53 g Diademed head of Zeus Ammon to right, with ram's horn in his hair and over the diadem / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ, Eagle with closed wings standing left on thunderbolt, head right, filleted cornucopia over his shoulder; between eagle's legs, E. Very Fine SNG Copenhagen 220-;. Svoronos 1166. Zeus Ammon, often simply referred to as Ammon, is a syncretic deity combining elements of the Greek god Zeus and the Egyptian god Amun. The worship of Zeus Ammon emerged in the Hellenistic period as a result of cultural interactions between the Greeks and Egyptians. Zeus, the king of the Greek gods, and Amun, a major deity in the Egyptian pantheon associated with air and the hidden forces of creation, were merged to create a deity that represented both cultures. The Greeks identified Amun with Zeus due to perceived similarities in their attributes and roles. The most notable sanctuary dedicated to Zeus Ammon was located at the Siwa Oasis in Egypt. Alexander the Great, after conquering Egypt in 332 BCE, sought guidance from the oracle at the Siwa Oasis, reinforcing the association between Zeus Ammon and divination. According to some accounts, the oracle acknowledged Alexander as the son of Zeus Ammon. The cult of Zeus Ammon persisted for several centuries, particularly in regions where Greek and Egyptian cultures intersected. The syncretism of deities was a common phenomenon in the Hellenistic world, illustrating the blending of religious beliefs and practices as a result of cultural exchange.



102 Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt. Alexandria. Ptolemy III Euergetes 246-221 BC. Diobol Æ 30 mm, 20,37 g Diademed head of Zeus Ammon to right, with ram's horn in his hair and over the diadem / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ, Eagle with closed wings standing left on thunderbolt; to left, cornucopia; between eagle's legs, chi-rho monogram. Very Fine SNG Copenhagen 176-7: Svoronos 966. Ptolemy III Euergetes, a significant figure in the Hellenistic era, ascended to the throne of Egypt in 246 BC, succeeding his father, Ptolemy II Philadelphus. The title "Euergetes" which translates to "the Benefactor" in Greek, aptly reflects his reputation as a generous and benevolent ruler who undertook numerous philanthropic endeavors during his reign. Notably, Ptolemy III is celebrated for his military achievements and successful conquests. His campaigns expanded the dominion of the Ptolemaic Kingdom, securing territories in Asia Minor, the Aegean Islands, and even regions within the Seleucid Empire. His motivations were partly driven by a desire to avenge the murder of his sister and regain territories that once belonged to the Ptolemies. Furthermore, Ptolemy III continued to nurture the legacy of the famed Library of Alexandria, a beacon of scholarship and learning in the ancient world. He expanded its collection of texts, further enhancing its status as a preeminent center for the study of various disciplines. In addition to his military and cultural endeavors, Ptolemy III was a patron of Greek culture and the arts. He provided support to poets, scholars, and philosophers, fostering the flourishing of Greek culture within the confines of Egypt. Ptolemy III Euergetes passed away in 222 BC, and he was succeeded by his son, Ptolemy IV Philopator. His legacy endures in the annals of history, marked by territorial expansion, intellectual development at the Library of Alexandria, and the promotion of Greek culture during his reign in the Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt.



103 Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt. Alexandria. Ptolemy III Euergetes 246-221 BC. Diobol Æ 34 mm, 32,96 g Diademed head of Zeus Ammon to right, with ram's horn in his hair and over the diadem / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ, Eagle with closed wings standing left on thunderbolt; to left, cornucopia; between eagle's legs, chi-rho monogram. Very Fine Svoronos 965; SNG Copenhagen 173-5.

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104 Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt. Alexandria. Ptolemy III Euergetes 246-221 BC. Diobol Æ 33 mm, 30,66 g Diademed head of Zeus Ammon to right, with ram's horn in his hair and over the diadem / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ, Eagle with closed wings standing left on thunderbolt; to left, cornucopia; between eagle's legs, chi-rho monogram. Very Fine Svoronos 965; SNG Copenhagen 173-5.

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105 Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt. Alexandria. Ptolemy IV Philopator 222-205 BC. Drachm Æ 41 mm, 64,02 g Diademed head of Zeus Ammon to right, with ram's horn in his hair and over the diadem / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ, Eagle with closed wings standing left on thunderbolt; to left, cornucopia; between eagle's legs, ΔΙ. Very Fine Svoronos 1125; SNG Copenhagen 199-200. The Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt, spanning from 305 BCE to 30 BCE, was a Hellenistic fusion of Greek and Egyptian cultures. Established by Ptolemy I Soter, the ruling class, though of Greek descent, strategically embraced Egyptian customs to solidify their rule. Economically, the kingdom thrived through control of the Nile Delta, fostering agricultural prosperity and strategic trade routes connecting the Mediterranean and Red Sea. At its zenith, the Ptolemaic era was marked by intellectual achievements, notably the Library of Alexandria, a renowned center of scholarship that symbolized the era's commitment to learning. Notable rulers included Ptolemy II Philadelphus and Cleopatra VII, the latter's alliance with Roman leaders like Julius Caesar and Mark Antony contributing to the kingdom's eventual demise. Internal strife and conflicts with Rome, culminating in the Battle of Actium in 30 BCE, led to the defeat of Cleopatra and Antony, resulting in the annexation of Egypt by Rome. The Ptolemaic Kingdom's legacy lies in its cultural amalgamation, economic prosperity, and contributions to intellectual pursuits, shaping the broader context of Hellenistic civilization.



106 Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt. Alexandria. Ptolemy IV Philopator 222-205 BC. Drachm Æ 42 mm, 71,52 g Diademed head of Zeus Ammon to right, with ram's horn in his hair and over the diadem / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ, Eagle with closed wings standing left on thunderbolt; to left, cornucopia; between eagle's legs, ΔΙ. Very Fine Svoronos 1125; SNG Copenhagen 199. Ptolemy IV Philopator, a notable figure in the Hellenistic period, assumed the throne of Egypt in 221 BC, succeeding his father, Ptolemy III Euergetes. His name, "Philopator," signifies his affection for his father, a common practice among Egyptian pharaohs who adopted various titles and names to reflect their attributes. During his reign, Ptolemy IV became embroiled in the ongoing conflicts between the Ptolemaic Dynasty and the Seleucid Empire, most notably exemplified by the Battle of Raphia in 217 BC. This decisive clash pitted Ptolemy IV against Antiochus III the Great of the Seleucids, with Ptolemy emerging victorious. Ptolemy IV was not solely a warrior; he was also a patron of culture and the arts. His affinity for Greek literature and culture led to the promotion of Greek traditions in Egypt, albeit with some resistance from the indigenous Egyptian population. Amid these cultural pursuits, his reign was fraught with political instability, corruption, and a weakening of the kingdom's administration, contributing to the decline of the Ptolemaic Dynasty. In 204 BC, Ptolemy IV's reign came to an end with his passing, and his young son, Ptolemy V Epiphanes, succeeded him. The transition of power was marred by power struggles and internal divisions within the royal court. Ptolemy IV Philopator's legacy lies in the delicate interplay of Greek and Egyptian cultures during the Hellenistic era, his military accomplishments, and the internal challenges that foreshadowed the eventual decline of Ptolemaic Egypt.



107 Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt. Alexandria. Ptolemy IV Philopator 222-205 BC. Drachm Æ 42 mm, 68,61 g Diademed head of Zeus Ammon to right, with ram's horn in his hair and over the diadem / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ, Eagle with closed wings standing left on thunderbolt; to left, cornucopia; between eagle's legs, ΔΙ. Nearly Very Fine Svoronos 1125; SNG Copenhagen 199.

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108 Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt. Alexandria. Ptolemy VI Philometor 163-145 BC. Second sole reign Tetradrachm AR 28 mm, 12,06 g Diademed head of Ptolemy I right, wearing aegis around neck / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ, eagle standing left on thunderbolt; no control marks. Very Fine, Graffiti on the reverse Svoronos 1489; SNG Copenhagen 262-8. Ptolemy VI Philometor, part of the Ptolemaic dynasty, served as Pharaoh (King) of Egypt in two periods, from 180 to 164 BC and again from 163 to 145 BC. Born to Ptolemy V and Cleopatra I, he initially ruled under the guardianship of his mother until 176 BC, earning him the epithet "Philometor" or "Mother-loving." Subsequently, his reign was marked by a complex political landscape. Around 175 BC, Ptolemy VI married his sister Cleopatra II. His regents initiated the Sixth Syrian War (169/168 BC) against the Seleucid Empire led by Antiochus IV. With Roman support, Antiochus IV, who briefly claimed the Egyptian throne in 169 BC, was expelled in 168 BC. Declared mature at the war's outset in 170 BC, Ptolemy VI co-ruled with his wife/sister Cleopatra II and younger brother Ptolemy VIII. Internal strife unfolded in 164 BC when Ptolemy VIII ousted his older brother from Egypt, leading Ptolemy VI to seek Roman aid. Returning in 163 BC, the kingdom was divided between Ptolemy VI (core realm) and Ptolemy VIII (Cyrenaica). Ptolemy VI successfully defended Cyprus, and after Seleucid King Demetrius I's death in 150 BC, he played a role in the Seleucid succession, initially opposing, then supporting Demetrius II. His death in 145 BC, just after a decisive battle, briefly united the Syrian Seleucid Empire and Egypt under a single ruler—a rarity since Alexander the Great's era. His daughter Cleopatra Thea married Demetrius II, creating further interconnections in the intricate web of Hellenistic politics. Ptolemy VI's legacy reflects the intricate dynamics of power, alliances, and familial relationships in the Hellenistic world.



109 Macedon. Koinon of Macedon. Pseudo-autonomous issue AD 238-244. Bronze Æ 26 mm, 15,29 g ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ, diademed head of Alexander the Great right; star below / KOINON MAKEΔONΩN B NEΩ, lion advancing right; above, club. Very Fine RPC VII.2, 204. Ex Gorny & Mosch Auction 126, Lot 1739.

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110 Macedon. Koinon of Macedon. Pseudo-autonomous issue AD 238-244. Bronze Æ 27 mm, 10,11 g ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ, bust of Alexander the Great, wearing lion skin right / KOINON MAKEΔONΩN B NEΩK P, agonistic table seen in perspective from r., holding two agonistic crowns with palm; above, star. Very Fine RPC VII.2, 269. Ex Hirsch Auction 240, Lot 205.

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111 Macedon. Koinon of Macedon. Pseudo-autonomous issue AD 244-249. Year ΕΟC = 275 (243/4 AD) Bronze Æ 28 mm, 10,85 g ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ, helmeted head of Alexander the Great right; griffin on helmet / KOINON MAKEΔONΩN B NEΩKOP, ΕΟC, Alexander the Great riding Bucephalus galloping right, holding couched spear. Very Fine RPC VIII, — (unassigned; ID 70263); AMNG 851. Ex Künker Auction 89, Lot 2504. This piece is a commemorative coin intended to commemorate the emperor's arrival in Macedonia in 244 and the festivities held on this occasion.

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112 Macedon. Stobi. Caracalla AD 198-217. Bronze Æ 28 mm, 12,36 g IMP C M AV ANTONINVS, cuirassed and laureate bust left / MVNIC STOBE, Nike advancing left, holding wreath and palm, wheel at her feet. Very Fine SNG Copenhagen 334. Ex Gorny & Mosch Auction 134, Lot 1882.

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113 Macedon. Thessalonica. Marcus Aurelius AD 161-180. Bronze Æ 28 mm, 12,84 g AVTOKPATΩP ANTONINOC, draped, cuirassed and laureate bust right / ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΕΩΝ, Nike advancing, l., holding wreath and palm-branch. Very Fine RPC IV.1, 8178 (temporary). Marcus Aurelius Antoninus was a Roman emperor and Stoic philosopher, was a pivotal figure of the Nerva-Antonine dynasty, renowned as the Five Good Emperors. His reign, from AD 161 to 180 AD, marked the pinnacle of the Pax Romana, an era of relative stability for the Roman Empire. Co-ruling with Lucius Verus, he confronted challenges like conflicts with the Parthian Empire and Germanic tribes. Born into privilege, Marcus was educated by prominent tutors and married Faustina. His reign witnessed the devastating Antonine Plague, impacting the empire's population. His "Meditations," a collection of philosophical writings, remains influential and illuminates his commitment to Stoic ideals. Unlike his predecessors, Marcus refrained from adopting an heir. His descendants included Lucilla, who married Lucius, and Commodus, whose controversial succession sparked debates. The Column and Equestrian Statue of Marcus Aurelius, both located in Rome, commemorate his military triumphs. Beyond his imperial role, Marcus's legacy as a philosopher-king endures. His insights into Stoicism continue to inspire modern thinkers, admired by writers, philosophers, and leaders over the centuries. In navigating the complexities of governance, philosophy, and legacy, Marcus Aurelius left an indelible mark on Roman history and the broader understanding of leadership and ethical principles.



114 Thrace. Anchialos. Gordian III with Tranquillina AD 238-244. Bronze Æ 29 mm, 14,04 g AVT K M ANT ΓΟΡΔΙΑΝΟC AVΓ CEB ΤΡΑΝΚΥΛΛΙΝΑ, draped busts of Gordian, laureate and cuirassed, and Tranquillina, wearing stephane, facing one another / ΟΥΛΠΙΑΝΩΝ ΑΓΧΙΑΛΕΩΝ, Homonoia standing left, holding patera and cornucopia. Very Fine AMNG I, 675; cf. Varbanov 715. Gordian III and Tranquillina were a married couple during the Roman Empire. Gordian III served as the Roman Emperor from 238 to 244 AD. Tranquillina was his wife. Gordian III became emperor at a young age after the death of his predecessor, Emperor Alexander Severus. His reign was marked by military campaigns against the Sassanian Empire in the east and Germanic tribes in the west. Tranquillina was the daughter of Gaius Furius Sabinus Aquila Timesitheus, who served as the praetorian prefect (the commander of the imperial bodyguard) under Gordian III. Timesitheus played a crucial role in the early years of Gordian's reign, providing guidance and stability to the young emperor. Gordian III and Tranquillina's marriage likely occurred during Gordian's reign. However, historical records are not entirely clear on the details of their relationship. Unfortunately, Gordian III's reign was cut short when he died under mysterious circumstances in 244 AD, possibly as a result of a plot within the imperial court. After Gordian's death, Tranquillina's fate becomes less well-documented. Some historical sources suggest that she may have married the subsequent emperor, Philip the Arab, while others suggest that she faced a tragic end, possibly being executed. The details are somewhat obscure, and historical accounts from this period can be incomplete or contradictory.



115 Thrace. Philippopolis. Antoninus Pius AD 138-161. Gargilius Antiquus as legatus Augusti pro praetore provinciae Thraciae Bronze Æ 31 mm, 21,18 g AV T AI AΔPIANOC ANTΩNEINOC, laureate head right / ΗΓΕ ΓΑΡΓΙΛΙ ΑΝΤΙΚΟΝ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΠΟΛΕΙΤΩΝ, bearded river-god Hebrus reclining, left, holding poppy and two ears of corn, resting on rock from which water flows. Very Fine RPC IV.1, 7415 (temporary).



116 Thrace. Serdica. Caracalla AD 198-217. Bronze Æ 31 mm, 16,87 g ΑΥΤ ΚΜ ΑΥΡΗ CEΥΗ ΑΝΤΩΝΕΙΝΟC, laureate head right / ΟΥΛΠΙΑC CΕΡΔΙΚΗC, Homonoia standing facing, head left, holding patera over lighted altar and cornucopia. Very Fine Varbanov 2394. "Homonoia," an ancient Greek term resonating with the profound ideals of "concord" and "unity," encapsulated a central concept in both ethical and political spheres of ancient Greek society. This principle of harmonious living, agreement, and concord was considered not only a political necessity but also a moral virtue. In the political realm, homonoia embodied the vision of an ideal state where citizens within a city-state (polis) would exist in a state of unity and agreement. This cohesion was deemed paramount for the stability and prosperity of the community, with leaders and lawmakers actively cultivating homonoia to prevent internal strife and discord. Beyond its political significance, homonoia held ethical weight, representing a virtue that called for individuals to prioritize the common good over personal interests. It fostered a sense of civic responsibility, urging citizens to collaborate for the greater benefit of the community. The concept of homonoia extended into religious practices in some Greek city-states, where cults dedicated to deities associated with unity and concord were established. Rituals and ceremonies were conducted to reinforce the ideals of harmony. Certain goddesses were associated with the epithet of Homonoia, further emphasizing the divine connection to the principle. For instance, Demeter, the goddess of agriculture, and Themis, the goddess of divine law and order, were linked to the concept of unity and concord. Throughout the works of influential Greek philosophers like Plato and Aristotle, the importance of homonoia in the functioning of an ideal state was explored and discussed. The concept persisted into the Hellenistic period, where rulers sought to establish homonoia among the diverse regions under their rule. Homonoia, therefore, stands as a testament to the Greeks' emphasis on communal well-being, cooperation, and the pursuit of shared objectives for the greater good. It served as a foundational principle shaping the ethical and political landscape of ancient Greek city-states.



117 Thrace. Serdica. Caracalla AD 198-217. Bronze Æ 28 mm, 14,02 g [AYT K] M AYP CEVH ANT[ΩNEINOC], laureate head right / ΟΥΛΠΙΑ[C CE]ΡΔΙΚΗΣ, Athena, helmeted, standing right, holding spear and feeding a serpent which is entwined around tree to right. Very Fine Varbanov 2228. Caracalla, also known as Marcus Aurelius Severus Antoninus Augustus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 198 to 217. He became co-emperor with his brother, Geta, in AD 198, but their relationship soured, leading Caracalla to have Geta assassinated in AD 211. As emperor, Caracalla was known for his brutality and lavish spending. In AD 212, he issued the Antonine Constitution, granting Roman citizenship to all free inhabitants of the empire, but his rule was marked by oppressive taxation. Caracalla was a military-focused emperor, leading campaigns in various frontier regions. Although he achieved some military successes, his reign was marred by ongoing conflicts. In AD 217, Caracalla was assassinated during a campaign in the eastern provinces. He left a legacy of tyranny and violence, earning him a notorious reputation in Roman history.



118 Thrace. Trajanopolis. Caracalla AD 198-217. Bronze AE 31 mm, 17,18 g AYT [K M AYPH] ANTONINOC, laureate head right / TRAIANOΠΟΛΕΙΤΩΝ, Hades-Serapis enthroned left, holding sceptre with left hand, right hand extended toward Kerberos. at his feet. Nearly Very Fine Varbanov 2820. Hades-Serapis stands as a fascinating example of religious syncretism during the Hellenistic and Roman periods, where the distinct realms of Greek and Egyptian mythology converged. This deity represents a blending of two significant figures: Hades, the Greek god ruling the underworld, and Serapis, a Hellenized form of the Egyptian deity Osiris-Apis. In Greek mythology, Hades is synonymous with the underworld and is a key deity among the Olympian gods. On the Egyptian side, Osiris-Apis is a divine entity associated with the afterlife, resurrection, and fertility. The synthesis of these two figures resulted in the creation of Serapis, a deity that incorporated elements from both cultural traditions. The rise of Hades-Serapis is closely tied to the cultural exchanges occurring in regions where Greek and Egyptian influences intersected. This syncretism served as a means to reconcile and amalgamate diverse religious practices. The cult of Serapis, including its syncretic form, gained significant popularity in Hellenistic Egypt and later within the broader Roman Empire. Hades-Serapis embodied characteristics related to the afterlife, death, and the agricultural cycle. Worship of this syncretic deity persisted into the Roman period, with temples dedicated to Serapis becoming prominent in various regions under Roman rule. However, with the ascendance of Christianity as the state religion of the Roman Empire, the cult of Serapis, including Hades-Serapis, faced a decline. The Christian influence led to the gradual abandonment of traditional polytheistic beliefs, marking a transformative period in the religious landscape of the ancient world. The story of Hades-Serapis underscores the dynamic nature of ancient religions, highlighting their ability to adapt and evolve in response to cultural encounters and influences. It stands as a testament to the rich tapestry of beliefs woven through the interactions of diverse civilizations in the Hellenistic and Roman eras.



119 Moesia Inferior. Istrus. Caracalla AD 198-217. Bronze Æ 28 mm, 15,43 g AYT K M AYP CEYHPOC ANTΩNIN, laureate head right / ΙΣΤΡΗΝΩΝ/ E, Kybele seated right; below throne, lion. Very Fine Varbanov 636.

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120 Corinthia. Corinth. Agrippa Postumus, Caesar 12 BC-AD 14. Duumviri Gaius Heius Pollio and Gaius Mussius Priscus Bronze Æ 21 mm, 6,06 g CORINTHI [AGRIPPA CAESAR], bare head of Agrippa Postumus right / C MVSSIO PRISCO IIVIR [C HEIO] POLLIONE [I]TER in wreath of parsley. Nearly Very Fine RPC I 1141a. Marcus Vipsanius Agrippa Postumus, born in 12 BC, was the youngest son of Marcus Vipsanius Agrippa and Julia, Augustus's daughter. His name "Postumus" signifies his posthumous birth, occurring after his father's death. Following the demise of his elder brothers, Gaius Caesar and Lucius Caesar, he was adopted by his grandfather, Emperor Augustus, along with Augustus's stepson Tiberius, under the name Agrippa Julius Caesar in AD 4, making him a potential heir to the throne. However, Agrippa Postumus faced a rapid fall from favor. Just two years later, he was disinherited, banished alongside his mother and sister Julia, first to Sorrento and later to the island of Planasia in AD 7, reportedly due to his lifestyle, though details remain unclear. Upon Augustus's death, Agrippa Postumus was swiftly executed by a military officer to eliminate any challenge to Tiberius's claim to the throne. Tacitus labels this act as the "first crime of the new government." The ancient debate lingered on whether the order came from Augustus or Tiberius, adding a layer of historical ambiguity. Subsequently, a slave named Clemens, claiming to be Agrippa, gathered followers in Italy but was executed in Rome in AD 16 under Tiberius's command.

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121 Crete. Knossos. Augustus 27 BC-AD 14. Aeschinus Caesaris Libertusiter and Plotius Pleb, duoviri. Bronze Æ 21 mm, 5,78 g AV[GVSTVS], bare head right / [AESCHINO CAES] L ITER PLOTIVS PLEB [IIVIR], RO MA, Roma standing left, holding Nike and transverse sceptre. Very Fine RPC I 978. Octavian, also known as Augustus, was a prominent Roman statesman and military leader who played a pivotal role in transforming the Roman Republic into the Roman Empire. Born in 63 BC in Rome, he was the great-nephew and adopted son of Julius Caesar. Octavian's political journey began when he was named Caesar's heir in his will after Caesar's assassination in 44 BC. Aligning himself with Mark Antony and Lepidus, he formed the powerful Second Triumvirate, seeking vengeance for Caesar's death by defeating his assassins. As conflicts arose within the Triumvirate, Octavian emerged as the dominant figure. The alliance between Octavian and Antony collapsed into a bitter civil war, culminating in the decisive Battle of Actium in 31 BC, where Octavian emerged victorious. In 27 BC, Octavian relinquished his extraordinary powers and accepted the title "Augustus" from the Senate, marking the inception of the Roman Empire. Though he held the title of princeps (first citizen), Augustus effectively became the first Roman Emperor. Under Augustus' rule, the Roman Empire experienced an era of relative peace known as the Pax Romana. He introduced various reforms to strengthen the state and initiated extensive building projects across the empire, leaving a lasting architectural legacy. Augustus' reign, which lasted for 41 years until his death in AD 14, marked the end of the Julio-Claudian dynasty and the beginning of the Roman Empire. His ability to consolidate power, navigate complex political waters, and maintain stability earned him admiration and secured his position as one of Rome's most influential leaders.



122 Pontos. Sebastopolis/Herakleopolis. Geta, as Caesar AD 198-209. Dated CY 208 = 205/206 AD Bronze Æ 28 mm, 13,95 g
ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡ ΚΑΙ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΝ ΚΑΙ ΠΑΤΡΟΝ ΠΑΤΡΙΩΝ, draped and cuirassed bust right / ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΝ ΚΑΙ ΠΑΤΡΟΝ ΠΑΤΡΙΩΝ [ΗΡΑΚΛΕΟ ΕΤΗΚ], statue of Herakles within an arcade between two tetrastyle temples. Very Fine Waddington 16 var.(obv...ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡ ΚΑΙ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΝ ΚΑΙ ΠΑΤΡΟΝ ΠΑΤΡΙΩΝ / rev..ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΝ ΚΑΙ ΠΑΤΡΟΝ ΠΑΤΡΙΩΝ); RG 144, 16/17 var.(same); Price-Trell 18, 8 [Caracalla]var.(same). Publius Septimius Geta, commonly known as Geta, was a Roman Emperor who experienced a brief and tumultuous reign during the 2nd century AD. Born in AD 189, he was the younger son of Emperor Septimius Severus and Julia Domna. In AD 198 CE, Geta was raised to Caesar and he received the title of Augustus in 209. However, Geta's time as co-emperor was marred by fierce animosity and rivalry with his brother and also co-emperor Caracalla. Their father, Septimius Severus, tried to mediate between the two, but their mutual dislike persisted. After their fathers death, the situation escalated to a tragic climax in AD 211. During an intense argument, Caracalla ordered the assassination of his younger brother in the very presence of their mother, Julia Domna. Geta was ruthlessly killed, and his body was denied the customary funeral rites and honors. In the aftermath of Geta's death, Caracalla launched a campaign to erase his brother's memory and any reminders of his brief reign. He ordered a damnatio memoriae, which sought to obliterate Geta's name and image from public records and monuments. Many of Geta's supporters were also targeted and killed. As a result of Caracalla's ruthless actions, much of what is known about Geta comes from inscriptions and sources that managed to survive the attempt to erase his memory. Geta's tragic fate stands as a stark example of the power struggles and political intrigues that defined the Roman Empire during this era.



123 Bithynia. Koinon of Bithynia. Domitian AD 81-96. Marcus Salvidenus Asprenas, proconsul Bronze Æ 24 mm, 12,11 g ΔΟΜΙΤΙΑΝΟΣ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΣΕΒΑΣ ΥΙΟΣ, laureate head of Domitian right / ΕΠΙ [Μ ΣΑΛΟΥΙΔΗΝ]ΟΥ ΑΣΠΡΗΝΑ ΑΝΘΥΠΑ, palm tree; to l., cuirass with helmet and two spears; to r., shield and two spears. Very Fine RPC -.

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124 Troas. Alexandria. Severus Alexander AD 222-235. Bronze Æ 24 mm, 7,73 g [IM] S ALEXANDER AV(sic), laureate head right / COL ALE, she-wolf right, looking back and feeding twins; TRO in exergue. Very Fine RPC VI, 3996 (temporary) var.(Obv&Rev legend different); Bellinger A344 var.(same).

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125 Ionia. Ephesos. Augustus with Livia 27 BC-AD 14. Aristion, grammateus; Presbon, magistrate Bronze Æ 20 mm, 6,61 g Jugate heads of Augustus, laureate, and Livia, draped, right / ΓΡΑΜΜΑ[ΤΕ]ΥΣ / ΑΡΙΣΤΙΩ[N] / ΕΦ[Ε] / ΜΕΝΤ[Ω]Ν, Stag standing right; quiver above. Very Fine RPC I 2599. The story of Augustus and Livia Drusilla is marked by political strategy, familial ties, and the establishment of the Roman Empire. Their journey began in the aftermath of Julius Caesar's assassination in 44 BC. Livia, married to Augustus, emerging as a political force, found themselves at the center of Roman affairs. Their paths intersected in 38 BC at a social event, leading to Augustus divorcing his then-wife, Scribonia, to marry Livia. This union not only joined two individuals but also politically aligned Augustus with the influential Claudian family. Livia, pregnant with her son Tiberius from her previous marriage, entered into a partnership that would significantly impact the course of Roman history. Livia's unwavering support during the pivotal Battle of Actium in 31 BC solidified their bond. As Augustus's third wife, Livia bore him a son, Drusus, and became the mother of his designated successor, Tiberius. Her involvement in public affairs and her carefully cultivated image as a symbol of Roman virtue earned her the epithet "Augusta." Livia played a pivotal role in shaping the future of the Julio-Claudian dynasty. As Augustus's heir, Tiberius was formally adopted in AD 4, ensuring the continuity of the imperial lineage. Augustus's death in AD 14 marked the transition to Tiberius's rule, with Livia witnessing the early years of his reign until her passing in AD 29. The legacy of Augustus and Livia extends beyond their individual roles; it symbolizes a pivotal era in Roman history, the dawn of the Roman Empire, and the nuanced interplay of personal relationships with the destiny of a burgeoning empire.



126 Ionia. Ephesos. Nero AD 54-68. Kousinios, episkopos for the fourth time Bronze Æ 16 mm, 3,38 g E[ΦΕ], childlike, draped and bare bust right / KOY[ΣΙΝΙΟΣ ΤΟ Δ], cult statue of Artemis Ephesia standing facing, with supports; all within wreath. Nearly Very Fine RPC I 2625. Nero, whose full name was Nero Claudius Caesar Augustus Germanicus, stands out in history as one of the most controversial Roman emperors, reigning from AD 54 to 68. Born in AD 37, Nero's path to power was unique. Through the maneuverings of his mother, Agrippina the Younger, he was adopted by Emperor Claudius and eventually ascended to the throne at just 16 years old upon Claudius's death. Nero's early rule was marked by moderation and influence from his advisors Seneca and Burrus. Yet, his reign took a dark turn with the Great Fire of Rome in AD 64. While it's unlikely he "fiddled while Rome burned," Nero's shifting of blame to Christians and subsequent persecutions stained his legacy. Nero was a paradoxical figure. He had an artistic streak and passion for music, poetry, and theater, seeing himself as a performer. He indulged in grand artistic competitions and even took the stage himself. His extravagance, however, knew no bounds. Lavish spending coupled with financial mismanagement led to public discontent and resentment. Revolts and unrest burgeoned, leading to Nero's ultimate downfall. In AD 68, Nero faced a Senate declaration branding him a public enemy. Fleeing Rome, he ultimately chose to take his own life rather than face the consequences of his actions. Nero's legacy is enigmatic. While history often portrays him as a tyrant and an inept ruler, modern interpretations suggest that some accounts might be sensationalized or politically motivated. For instance, the idea of him playing the fiddle during Rome's fire is debunked by historical accuracy. Nero's fall marked the beginning of the chaotic "Year of the Four Emperors," paving the way for the Flavian dynasty. His reign remains a subject of fascination, as historians continue to peel back layers of complexity to understand the forces that shaped his rule and eventual downfall.



127 Ionia. Magnesia ad Maeander. Augustus 27 BC-AD 14. Bronze Æ 19 mm, 5,54 g ΛΕΥ[ΚΙΟΣ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ] ΓΑΙΟΣ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ, bare heads of Lucius and Gaius Caesar facing each other, monogram between / [ΜΑΓΝΗ]ΤΩ[Ν], facing cult statue of Artemis Leukophryene, with two supports. Fine RPC I 2696. Gaius Caesar and Lucius Caesar, sons of Marcus Vipsanius Agrippa and Julia (Augustus's daughter), were adopted by Augustus in 17 BC to secure the Roman imperial succession. Gaius, the elder brother, held esteemed titles like "Leader of the Youth" and was granted imperium maius in 2 BC. In 2 BC, he married Livilla and embarked on a significant journey to the East, meeting Augustus's stepson, Tiberius. However, tragedy struck during the siege of Artagera in Armenia, resulting in Gaius's fatal injuries and subsequent death in Limyra, Lycia. A cenotaph was erected in his honor. Lucius Caesar, the second son, designated "Leader of the Youth" at the age of 2 BC, enjoyed early recognition and promises, including an engagement to Aemilia Lepida. Unfortunately, Lucius met his untimely demise on his way to Spain in AD 2, where he was set to be introduced to the army before assuming the consulship. His premature death marked the end of a promising lineage within the Julio-Claudian dynasty, and he was buried in the Augustus Mausoleum. With Gaius and his younger brother Lucius both deceased by AD 2, Augustus turned to his stepson Tiberius and Agrippa Postumus as new heirs.



128 Ionia. Miletos. Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus AD 165-166. P. Ail. Protoleon Themistokleous, magistrate Bronze Æ 39 mm, 22,49 g [AYT KAI] M AYP ANTΩNEINOC AYT KAI [AYP KOMMOΔOC], confronted busts of Marcus Aurelius right laureate, draped and cuirassed and Lucius Verus left laureate, draped and cuirassed; c/m / ΕΠΙ [ΑΙΛ ΠΡΩΤΟΛΕΟΝ]ΤΟC ΤΟ Β [ΜΙ]ΛΗ[CΙΩΝ], Leto advancing, l., head, r., carrying her two children (Apollo and Artemis). Nearly Very Fine RPC IV.2, 1076 (temporary). Ex Hollschek Collection Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus were Roman emperors who co-ruled the Roman Empire during a significant period. Marcus Aurelius, born in AD 121, became emperor in AD 161 and ruled until his death in AD 180. He is best known for his philosophical work "Meditations" and is considered one of the "Five Good Emperors" of Rome. Marcus Aurelius faced challenges, including wars on the Roman frontiers, especially against Germanic tribes and the Parthian Empire. Lucius Verus, born in AD 130, was adopted by Antoninus Pius, Marcus Aurelius's predecessor. Lucius became co-emperor with Marcus Aurelius in AD 161, marking the beginning of a joint rule. Their co-rule continued until Lucius Verus's death in AD 169. Lucius faced the Roman Empire's first major pandemic, the Antonine Plague, which had far-reaching consequences. The co-rule of Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus is often referred to as the "Marcus Aurelius and Verus" period. They faced military challenges, notably the Parthian War and conflicts with Germanic tribes. Marcus Aurelius continued to rule alone after Lucius Verus's death until his own death in AD 180. Despite the difficulties they faced, Marcus Aurelius is especially remembered for his stoic philosophy and leadership during challenging times.



129 Ionia. Smyrna. Tiberius AD 14-37. P. Petronius, proconsul and Hieronymus, strategus. Struck 29-35 AD Bronze Æ 20 mm, 5,22 g [CEBACTH CYNK]ΛHTOC [Z]MYPNAϺN IEΠONYMOY, diademed and draped bust of Senate right vis-à-vis draped bust of Julia Augusta (Livia) left, wearing stephane / CEBA[CT]O[C] TIBEP[IOC EΠI ΠETPONIIOY], statue of Tiberius as pontifex standing facing within tetrastyle temple set on three-tiered base; shield within pediment. Nearly Very Fine RPC I 2469; SNG Copenhagen 1339. The historical tapestry of Tiberius and Livia Drusilla unfolds against the backdrop of ancient Rome's transition from republic to empire. Tiberius, born into the Claudian family, was intricately linked to the political maneuvers orchestrated by his mother, Livia. His journey took a decisive turn in 4 BC when Emperor Augustus formally adopted him as his heir, securing his place in the imperial lineage. Tiberius distinguished himself in military campaigns, notably in Germania, earning acclaim for his leadership. However, his personal life bore the strain of political obligations. Marriages to Vipsania Agrippina and Julia, Augustus's daughter, carried their own complexities. A period of self-imposed exile in Rhodes marked a turbulent phase for Tiberius, but Augustus's recall in 2 BC set the stage for his eventual ascendancy to the throne in AD 14. As emperor, Tiberius faced challenges, including the controversial "Tribunician Power Trials." The relationship with his mother, Livia, was pivotal. While she played a crucial role in securing his position, tensions emerged during Tiberius's reign, exacerbated by the influence of Sejanus. Tiberius's death in AD 37 remains shrouded in mystery, with Livia passing away in AD 29. Their narrative encapsulates the complexities of power, familial ties, and political intricacies within the Julio-Claudian dynasty. Tiberius's reign, marked by both achievements and controversies, and his dynamic with Livia contribute to the nuanced legacy of this crucial period in Roman history.



130 Caria. Harpasa. Antoninus Pius AD 138-161. Bronze Æ 32 mm, 18,43 g [...]ΤΙ ΑΙΑ ΑΝΤΨΝΕΙΝ[...], draped, cuirassed and laureate bust right / [...]ΚΕΛ ΑΡΠΑ[...], Zeus seated left, holding Nike and sceptre. Good Fine Not in the standard references. Ex Hollschek Collection

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131 Caria. Mylasa. Hadrian AD 117-138. Bronze Æ 19 mm, 3,37 g ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡΑ ΑΔΡΙΑΝΟΝ ΣΕΒΑΚΤΟΝ, draped and laureate bust right / ΜΥΛΑΚΕΩΝ, stag standing right. Very Fine RPC III 2203.

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132 Lydia. Mastaura. Lucius Verus AD 161-169. Bronze Æ 36 mm, 26,61 g [...]ΟΥΡΟΣ, draped, cuirassed and laureate bust right / ΕΠΙ [...] ΜΑΚΤΑΥΡΕΙΤΩΝ, male figure standing, r., holding axe (?) and grabbing horns of humped bull kneeling in front of him. Good Fine Not in the standard references. Ex Numismatica Vienna XXI, 570 (20 to 23 November 1978).

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133 Lydia. Mostene. Claudius with Agrippina Minor AD 41-54. Pedanius, magistrate Bronze Æ 21 mm, 5,91 g [ΤΙ Κ]ΛΑΥΔ[ΙΟΝ ΚΑΙCΑΡΑ ΘΕΑΝ ΑΓΡΙΠΠΙΝΑΝ], jugate draped busts of Claudius, laureate, and Agrippina right / [ΕΠΙ ΠΕΔΑΝΙΟΥ ΚΑΙCΑΡΕΩΝ Μ]ΟCΤΗΝ[ΩΝ], Hero on horseback right, holding labrys. Good Fine RPC I 2461; GRPC 30; SNG Copenhagen 285; SNG von Aulock 3029; BMC 7-8. The historical narrative of Claudius and Agrippina Minor, unfolding in ancient Rome, is a tale of intricate family dynamics, strategic alliances, and the pursuit of power within the Julio-Claudian dynasty. Agrippina, sister of Caligula and daughter of the esteemed Germanicus, entered a strategic marriage with her uncle, Claudius, in AD 49. This union aimed to secure her position and that of her son Nero, born from her previous marriage. Agrippina's influence on Claudius was profound. She played a pivotal role in convincing him to adopt Nero as his heir in AD 53, bypassing Claudius's own son Britannicus. This move ensured the continuity of the imperial lineage. Agrippina, elevated to a prominent position, exercised considerable sway at the imperial court, involving herself in political matters. The death of Claudius in AD 54 marks a crucial turning point. Historical accounts suggest that Agrippina may have played a role in his demise to pave the way for Nero's ascent to the throne, with whispers of poison lingering in the annals of history. The early years of Nero's reign saw Agrippina's continued influence, but tensions eventually emerged between mother and son. The once-powerful Agrippina met a tragic end in AD 59 when Nero, driven by political ambitions and conflicts, ordered her assassination. The Claudius-Agrippina alliance, initially a strategic move, encapsulates the complexity and ruthlessness of Roman imperial politics. Their story unfolds as a captivating saga of familial bonds entangled with power struggles, leaving an indelible mark on the annals of Roman history.

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134 Lydia. Nakrasa. Domitia AD 82-96. Bronze Æ 18 mm, 3,17 g [ΔΟ]Μ[Ι]Τ[ΙΑ] CΕΒΑ[CΤΗ], draped bust right / ΝΑΚΡΑ[CΕΙΤΩΝ], Tripod. Very Fine RPC II 933.

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135 Lydia. Philadelphia. Caligula AD 37-41. Artemon, son of Hermogenes Bronze Æ 20 mm, 3,68 g [ΓΑΙΟ]C ΚΑΙCΑΡ ΓΕΡ[ΜΑΝΙΚΟC] ΝΕΟΚΑΙCΑΡΕΩΝ, laureate head right / ΑΓ[ΡΙΠΠΙΝΑΝ ΑΡΤΕΜΩ]Ν ΕΡΜΟΓΕΝΟΥC, Agrippina I as goddess seated right, with sceptre and cornucopia. Very Fine RPC I 3032. Caligula, whose full name was Gaius Julius Caesar Augustus Germanicus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 37 to 41. He was born in AD 12 in Antium and was the third emperor of the Julio-Claudian dynasty. Caligula initially ascended to the throne with widespread support and high hopes, as he was the son of the popular and respected general Germanicus. However, his early reign was marked by benevolent policies, including freeing political prisoners and ending some unpopular taxes. Unfortunately, Caligula's mental state deteriorated rapidly, leading to increasingly erratic and tyrannical behavior. He displayed signs of megalomania, claiming to be a god and demanding excessive worship. He engaged in extravagant spending, leading to financial strain on the empire. His rule was characterized by cruelty and persecution, with executions and banishments of perceived enemies. He had a tumultuous relationship with the Roman Senate and the ruling class. Caligula's behavior became increasingly unpredictable, and in AD 41, he was assassinated by a group of conspirators, including members of the Praetorian Guard and the Senate. His death brought an end to his tumultuous and controversial reign. Caligula's reign remains infamous in history, known for his excesses, cruelty, and abuse of power. His short and turbulent rule serves as a cautionary tale of the dangers of unchecked authority and the potential consequences of an unstable leader in a position of great power.



136 Lydia. Philadelphia. Agrippina Junior, Augusta AD 50-59. Tiberius Nikanor, magistrate. Struck circa AD 54-59 Bronze Æ 15 mm, 2,82 g ΑΓΡΙΠΠΙΝ[Α] [ΣΕΒΑΣΤΗ], draped bust right / ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΕΩΝ ΝΕΙΚΑΝΩΡ, cornucopia. Nearly Very Fine GRPC Lydia 198; RPC I 3042. Agrippina Minor, also known as Agrippina the Younger, was a prominent Roman woman and a member of the Julio-Claudian dynasty. She was the daughter of Germanicus, a celebrated Roman general, and Agrippina the Elder, and the granddaughter of Emperor Augustus. Agrippina was born in AD 15 and grew up in a politically influential family. In AD 49, she married her uncle, Emperor Claudius, which secured her position in the imperial family. Agrippina played a significant role in the politics of the time, using her influence to advance her son Nero's claim to the throne. She orchestrated the downfall of Claudius's son Britannicus, ensuring Nero's succession as emperor. However, her son Nero's reign turned out to be tumultuous and marked by tyranny and extravagance. Agrippina initially wielded considerable influence over Nero's decisions, but their relationship soured over time. Eventually, Nero ordered Agrippina's assassination in AD 59, allegedly due to her attempts to control his actions. The life of Agrippina and her complex relationship with her son Nero has been a subject of fascination for historians and writers throughout the ages. Her story reflects the intricate and often perilous dynamics of power within the Roman imperial family.

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137 Lydia. Philadelphia. Domitian as Caesar AD 69-81. Bronze Æ 15 mm, 2,81 g [ΔΟ]ΜΙΤΙΑΝ [Κ]ΑΙCΑ[P], draped and cuirassed bust right / ΦΛΑΒΙ Φ[ΙΛΑΔ]ΕΛΦΕΩΝ, Apollo standing right, holding lyre and plectrum. Very Fine RPC II 1331; BMC 62; Hochard 1429-30

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138 Lydia. Saitta. Pseudo-autonomous issue AD 253-268. Ka-Ph- Sulla, son of Asiarch and first archon Bronze Æ 35 mm, 20,98 g ΙΕΡΑ CYNKΛΗΤΟC , draped bust of Senate right / $[ΕΠ ΚΑ Φ C]ΥΛΛΑ [ΥΙ ΑCΙΑΡ ΑΡΧ Α]/ ΚΑΙΤΤΗΝΩΝ$, Kybele seated r., wearing polos, chiton and long peplos, holding patera in l. hand, r. elbow resting on tympanon. Nearly Very Fine RPC X, — (unassigned; ID 78767).

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139 Lydia. Sala. Pseudo-autonomous issue AD 161-180. Damas, first archon Bronze Æ 34 mm, 25,69 g $\Delta ΗΜ[ΟC] ΚΑΛΗΝΩΝ$, laureate head of youthful Demos right / $ΕΠΙ ΔΑΜΑ Α[ΡΧΟΝΤΟC Α]$, Tyche standing, l., wearing kalathos, holding rudder and cornucopia. Nearly Very Fine RPC IV.2, 1421 (temporary).

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140 Lydia. Thyateira. Pseudo-autonomous issue AD 184-187. Moschianos Philippou, strategos Bronze Æ 30 mm, 12,98 g $\ThetaΥΑΤΕ[Ι]ΡΗΝΩΝ$, diademed and draped bust of Sarapis (head assimilated to portrait of mature Marcus Aurelius) right, kalathos decorated with floral ornament / $ΕΠΙ ΜΟ[CΧΙ]ΑΝΟΥ ΘΥΑΤΙΡΗ$, Athena standing left, holding Nike, spear and shield. Very Fine Hochard 2656; BMC 27; RPC IV.2, 1570 (temporary).

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141 Phrygia. Amorion. Augustus 27 BC-AD 14. Brockage Bronze Æ 21 mm, 5,96 g $CΕΒΑCΤΟC$, bare-head right; in right field, lituus / Incuse of the obverse. Very Fine RPC I 3233.

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142 Phrygia. Laodikeia ad Lycum. Plotina. Augusta AD 105-123. Bronze Æ 20 mm, 6,85 g ΠΛΩΤΕΙΝΑ [CEBACTH], diademed and draped bust right / ΛΑΟΔΙΚ[ΕΩ]Ν, temple with six columns within which statue of (?). Very Fine RPC III 2321(this coin); Weber 7144. Pompeia Plotina, born before AD 70 and passing after January 1, AD 123, was the wife of Roman Emperor Trajan. Originating from Nemausus (Nîmes), France, little is known about her life before marrying Trajan, likely before AD 86. Coins featuring her image were minted from AD 112, suggesting her influence. Plotina played a pivotal role in advocating for Hadrian as Trajan's successor, despite Senate disapproval of Hadrian's adoption. After Trajan's death in AD 117, Plotina initially kept it secret, sending an adoption decree to Rome, claiming Trajan's incapacitation due to illness. On August 11, she disclosed Trajan's demise. Hadrian was accepted as emperor, and Plotina transported Trajan's ashes to Rome. She passed away five years later. Plotina's legacy lies in her influence during Trajan's rule and her strategic role in securing Hadrian's succession. The events following Trajan's death underscore her political acumen, as she navigated the intricacies of Roman politics to ensure a smooth transition of power.

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143 Phrygia. Prynnessos. Elagabal AD 218-222. Bronze Æ 30 mm, 12,15 g Α[ΥΤ ΚΑΙ] Μ ΑΥ ΑΝΤΩΝΕΙΝΟC, draped, cuirassed and laureate bust right / [ΠΡΥΜ]ΝΗΣΣΕΩΝ, Dikaiosyne seated left on throne, holding poppy ears and scale. Nearly Very Fine BMC 32; SNG Righetti 1216.

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144 Pisidia. Antioch. Caracalla AD 198-217. Bronze Æ 33 mm, 24,38 g IMP CAE M AVR ANTONINVS [PIVS A]VG, laureate head right / COL CAES ANTIOCH, She-wolf standing right under fig tree, suckling the twins Romulus and Remus. Very Fine Krzyżanowska XXXVIII/69; SNG Paris 1140.

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145 Lykaonia. Iconium. Gallienus AD 253-268. Bronze Æ 22 mm, 6,04 g IMP C P LIC GALLIENVC P F [A], radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / [I]COHIEN COLO, Tyche seated left, holding rudder and cornucopia, below seat, wheel; S R in exergue. Very Fine Von Aulock, Lycaonien 450-462; BMC 17. Gallienus, whose full name was Publius Licinius Egnatius Gallienus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 253 to 268. He was the son of Emperor Valerian and the co-emperor alongside his father during the early years of his reign. Gallienus faced a tumultuous and challenging period in Roman history known as the Crisis of the Third Century. During his reign, the Roman Empire was threatened by external invasions from various barbarian tribes, internal revolts, economic troubles, and the breakaway of various regions seeking independence. As co-emperor with his father, Gallienus was tasked with the defense of the western provinces of the Roman Empire while his father Valerian focused on the eastern front against the Sassanian Empire (ancient Persia). However, in AD 260, Emperor Valerian was defeated and captured by the Sassanian king, Shapur I, resulting in a significant blow to the Roman Empire. Gallienus then ruled as the sole emperor, facing multiple challenges from both external and internal enemies. He pursued a policy of co-opting some of the invading tribes into the Roman military and granting some regions greater autonomy to stabilize the empire. Despite his efforts, Gallienus faced opposition from within the Roman military. In 268 AD, he was assassinated in a conspiracy led by his own officers, and Claudius II Gothicus was proclaimed as the new Roman emperor.

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146 Cilicia. Anazarbos. Nero AD 54-68. Bronze Æ 18 mm, 3,80 g NWPQN KAICAP, laureate head right; c/m [on neck]: head within incuse circle / ΕΤΟΥΣ ΣΠ ΚΑΙCΑ[ΡΕ]ΩΝ, veiled Boule seated left holding amphora and tessera. Very Fine RPC I 4063; Ziegler 953-6.

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147 Cilicia. Anazarbos. Pseudo-autonomous issue AD 161-180. Dated CY 180 = 160/1 AD Bronze Æ 13 mm, 1,25 g ET ΠΡ, horse walking right / ANAZAPBE, River-god Pyramos swimming right. Very Fine RPC IV.3 Online 3636; SNG BN 2032-3; SNG Levante 1394.

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148 Cilicia. Augusta. Julia Augusta (Livia, mother of Tiberius) AD 22-23. Bronze Æ 17 mm, 3,25 g Draped bust right / AVFOVCTANQN, Capricorn left, holding globe; six-rayed star above. Very Fine RPC I 4007; Karbach, Augusta 7; SNG BN 1891; SNG Copenhagen 69; SNG von Aulock 5531-2. Livia Drusilla, also known as Julia Augusta, was a prominent figure in ancient Rome and the wife of Emperor Augustus. She was born in 58 BC in the Roman Republic and later became a powerful and influential woman during the early Roman Empire. Livia was first married to Tiberius Claudius Nero and had a son, Tiberius, from that union. After her husband's death, she married Octavian, who later became Emperor Augustus, in 38 BC. As Augustus' wife, Livia played a crucial role in his political career, supporting him in his rise to power and participating in various political activities. Livia was known for her intelligence, charm, and political acumen, which earned her respect and admiration. She was deeply involved in the affairs of state, and her opinions were highly valued by Augustus. Livia's reputation in history has been influenced by conflicting accounts, as some sources depict her as manipulative and ambitious, while others praise her as a model Roman matron and advisor. Regardless of these varying portrayals, Livia Drusilla remains a significant figure in Roman history and a symbol of the influential role women could play in ancient Rome. She passed away in AD 29, having lived through a transformative period in Roman history.

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149 Cilicia. Eirenopolis - Neronias. Julia Domna. Augusta AD 193-217. Dated CY 144 = 194/5 AD Bronze Æ 23 mm, 9,02 g ΙΟΥΛΙΑ ΔΟΜΝΑ ΣΕΒ, draped bust to right / ΕΙΡΗΝΟΠΟΛΙΤΩΝ ΕΤΟ ΔΜΡ, mountain range; date in legend. Very Fine SNG BnF -; SNG Levante -; SNG Pfalz 630. Julia Domna was a Roman empress and the wife of the Roman Emperor Septimius Severus. She was born around 160 AD in Emesa (modern-day Homs, Syria) and belonged to a prominent Syrian family. Julia Domna's marriage to Septimius Severus occurred before he became emperor. Septimius Severus rose through the ranks and eventually became the Roman emperor in 193 AD. As empress, Julia Domna was a highly educated and influential woman. She was known for her intelligence, literary talents, and patronage of philosophers and scholars. She played an active role in the cultural and intellectual life of the Roman court. Julia Domna and Septimius Severus had two sons, Caracalla and Geta, both of whom became Roman emperors after their father's death. Unfortunately, their relationship with each other was hostile, leading to a power struggle after Severus' death. Caracalla eventually ordered the assassination of his brother Geta in AD 212. Julia Domna's later life was marred by grief and political turmoil. In AD 217, she faced the death of her husband and the assassination of her elder son Caracalla. Julia Domna died in AD 217, possibly by suicide or due to a forced starvation. Julia Domna was remembered as a significant and influential figure in the Roman Empire, known for her intelligence, political acumen, and patronage of the arts and philosophy. Her impact on Roman society and culture was considerable, and her influence extended beyond her lifetime through the reigns of her sons and their policies.

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150 Cilicia. Flaviopolis. Domitian AD 81-96. Civic Year 17 (ZI) = 89/90 AD Bronze Æ 16 mm, 1,79 g [ΔΟΜΕΤΙΑΝΟΣ] ΚΑΙCΑΡ, laureate head right / ΕΤΟΥC ΖΙ ΦΛΑΥΙΟΠΟΛΕΙΤΩΝ, bust of Dionysos with thyrsus right. Very Fine RPC II 1761.

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151 Cilicia. Flaviopolis. Maximinus I Thrax AD 235-238. Dated RY 163 = 235/6 AD Bronze Æ 22 mm, 18,09 g [AVT K] Γ IOV OVH MAΞIMEINOC CEB, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right, seen from behind / [ΦΛΑΟΝΙ]ΟΠΟΛΕΙΤΩ[Ν ΕΤΟΥΣ], diademed bust of Zeus (or Cronus) right, slight drapery on left shoulder, wearing bulla; P-ΞΓ (date) across fields. Very Fine RPC VI, 7470 (temporary); SNG Levante 1552; SNG Paris -; Ziegler 1261. Maximinus I Thrax, also known as Maximinus Thrax, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 235 to 238. He was born in Thrace, which is in the modern-day Balkans region. Maximinus came from a humble background and had a military career, rising through the ranks to become a prominent general in the Roman army. In AD 235, he was declared emperor by his troops after they assassinated Emperor Alexander Severus during a military rebellion. As emperor, Maximinus faced several challenges, including dealing with internal dissent and external invasions. His rule was marked by strict discipline and harsh policies, which made him unpopular with the senatorial class and the urban population. Maximinus also faced military conflicts with the Sassanian Empire in the east and the Germanic tribes in the Rhine and Danube regions. Despite his military background, his campaigns did not yield significant successes. In AD 238, a series of revolts broke out across the Roman Empire due to dissatisfaction with Maximinus' rule. He was eventually assassinated by his own troops during one of these revolts in Aquileia. Maximinus Thrax is often remembered as one of the "Barracks Emperors," a term used for the military generals who rose to power during the turbulent period known as the Crisis of the Third Century.

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152 Cilicia. Karallia. Gordian III AD 238-244. Bronze Æ 24 mm, 6,64 g [AYT KAI M] ANT ΓΟΡΔΙΑΝΟC CE[B], laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right, seen from front / KΑΡΑΛ[Λ]ΙΩΤ[ΩΝ], Selene standing left, wearing crescent, holding long torch. Very Fine Watson 578; RPC VII.2, 2683.

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153 Cilicia. Kasai. Severus Alexander AD 222-235. Bronze Æ 18 mm, 3,63 g A K M AYP CE AΛEΞANΔP, draped, cuirassed and laureate bust right / KACATΩN, Athena standing left, holding shield and spear. Very Fine RPC VI, 7490 (temporary).

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154 Cilicia. Kolybrassos. Valerian II, as Caesar AD 256-257. Bronze Æ 29 mm, 10,88 g ΠΟΥ ΛΙΚ ΚΟΡ ΟΥΑΛΕΡΙΑΝΟΝ ΚΑΙ CEB, bare-headed, draped and cuirassed bust of Valerian II to right, seen from behind; below, eagle with wings spread; to right, IA (mark of value) / ΚΟΛΥΒΡΑCCEΩΝ, Hermes standing front, head to left, holding purse in his right hand and kerykeion in his left. Very Fine SNG Levante 347; SNG Paris -; SNG PFPS -; SNG von Aulock -; Ziegler -.

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155 Cilicia. Korakesion. Hadrian AD 117-138. Bronze Æ 20 mm, 2,53 g AY KAI T AΔPIANOC, laureate head right / ΚΟΡΑΚΗCΙΩΤΩΝ, Demeter wearing long chiton standing, l., holding ears of corn over lighted altar in her r. hand, l. resting on lighted torch. Very Fine RPC III 2745.

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156 Cilicia. Korykos. Valerian I AD 253-260. Bronze Æ 28 mm, 11,67 g AY K ΠO ΛI OYALEPIANOC, radiate and cuirassed bust right, seen from behind / KΩPYKIQTΩN AYTONO, Artemis standing front, head to right, holding bow in her left hand and drawing arrow from quiver with her right; to lower right, stag standing right, head turned back to left. Very Fine McClean 9061; SNG Levante -; SNG Paris -; SNG PFPS -; SNG von Aulock -; RPC X, — (unassigned; ID 60450) var.(obv legend [...AIK...]). Valerian, whose full name was Publius Licinius Valerianus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 253 to 260. He came from an aristocratic family and held various important positions in the Roman government before ascending to the throne. Valerian's reign was marked by both successes and challenges. In the early years of his rule, he shared power with his son Gallienus, who was appointed as co-emperor. Together, they attempted to address the various crises facing the Roman Empire, including external invasions, economic difficulties, and internal rebellions. One of the notable events during Valerian's reign was his campaign against the Sassanian Empire (ancient Persia). In AD 260, Valerian led a military expedition into Persia but was defeated and captured by the Sassanian king Shapur I. This marked a humiliating moment in Roman history as Valerian became the first Roman emperor to be captured alive by a foreign enemy. Valerian's captivity had a profound impact on the Roman Empire, causing political instability and further exacerbating the challenges faced by the government. During his captivity, Valerian was subjected to various humiliations and was used as a footstool by the Sassanian king, highlighting the humiliation suffered by the Roman Empire. Valerian's exact fate during captivity remains uncertain, and it is believed that he died in captivity around AD 260, after possibly being skinned as a memorial.



157 Cilicia. Laertes. Hadrian AD 117-138. Bronze Æ 23 mm, 8,96 g AY KAI TPA AΔPIANOC, draped and cuirassed bust left / ΛΑΕΡΤΕΙΤΩΝ, Apollo Sidetes wearing short chiton standing l., holding laurel-branch in his r. hand, l. resting on sceptre. Very Fine RPC III 2750.

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158 Cilicia. Lyrbe. Gordian III AD 238-244. Bronze Æ 25 mm, 6,78 g AY K M ANT ΓΟΡΔΙΑΝOC, draped, cuirassed and laureate bust right / ΑΥΡΒΕΙΤΩΝ, Athena standing r., holding spear and shield. Very Fine RPC VII.2, 2638 (listing 1 specimen).

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159 Cilicia. Mallos. Caligula AD 37-41. Bronze Æ 18 mm, 3,45 g Laureate head left / MAAΛΩΤΩΝ, Nike standing left, holding rudder and palm branch; in right field, [ME EP]. Nearly Very Fine RPC I, 4018; GRMK 213, no. 1. Caligula, whose full name was Gaius Julius Caesar Augustus Germanicus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 37 to 41. He was born in AD 12 in Antium and was the third emperor of the Julio-Claudian dynasty. Caligula initially ascended to the throne with widespread support and high hopes, as he was the son of the popular and respected general Germanicus. However, his early reign was marked by benevolent policies, including freeing political prisoners and ending some unpopular taxes. Unfortunately, Caligula's mental state deteriorated rapidly, leading to increasingly erratic and tyrannical behavior. He displayed signs of megalomania, claiming to be a god and demanding excessive worship. He engaged in extravagant spending, leading to financial strain on the empire. His rule was characterized by cruelty and persecution, with executions and banishments of perceived enemies. He had a tumultuous relationship with the Roman Senate and the ruling class. Caligula's behavior became increasingly unpredictable, and in AD 41, he was assassinated by a group of conspirators, including members of the Praetorian Guard and the Senate. His death brought an end to his tumultuous and controversial reign. Caligula's reign remains infamous in history, known for his excesses, cruelty, and abuse of power. His short and turbulent rule serves as a cautionary tale of the dangers of unchecked authority and the potential consequences of an unstable leader in a position of great power.

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160 Cilicia. Seleukeia ad Kalykadnon. Severus Alexander AD 222-235. Bronze Æ 33 mm, 14,86 g [AY K M] AYP CΕΟΥΗΡ ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΣ, cuirassed, draped and laureate bust right; c/m: o within Δ within triangular incuse and KA monogram / CΕΛΕΥΚΕΩΝ ΤΩΝ ΠΡΟΣ ΤΩ ΚΑΛΥΚΑΔΝΩ ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΑC, Nike on globe advancing left, holding wreath in right and palm-branch in left hand. Very Fine RPC VI, 7033 (temporary).

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161 Cilicia. Seleukeia ad Kalykadnon. Gordian III AD 238-244. Bronze Æ 35 mm, 16,32 g ANTΩΝΙΟC ΓΟΡΔΙΑΝΟC CEBAC, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right; c/m: o within Δ within triangular incuse / CEΛEYKEΩN TΩN ΠPOC TΩ KAAVKAAΔNΩ, Tyche seated left, holding cornucopia and placing hand on small stele inscribed ΕΛΕ/ΥΘΕ/ΡΑC. Nearly Very Fine SNG BnF 1024; SNG Levante 772; SNG von Aulock 5841; for c/m: Howgego 670.

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162 Cilicia. Tarsos. Caracalla AD 198-217. Bronze Æ 35 mm, 21,37 g ΑΥΤ[ΚΑΙ Μ] ΑΥΡ CΕΥΗΡΟC ΑΝΤΩΝΕΙΝΟC Π-Π, crowned bust to right, wearing garment of the demiurgus; c/m / ΑΝΤΩΝΕΙΝΙΑΝΗC CΕΥΗ ΑΔ/ ΤΑΡCΟΥ/ ΑΜΚ ΓΒ, Perseus, on left standing to right and holding harpa, and Herakles, on right standing to left and holding club and lion skin, together holding a draped bust of Caracalla to left. Nearly Very Fine SNG Levante 1069; SNG von Aulock 6019.

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163 Cilicia. Tarsos. Macrinus AD 217-218. Didrachm AR 21 mm, 6,61 g [AY]T K M OΠE CEY [MAKPEINOC C], draped, cuirassed and laureate bust right / TYXH•TA[PCOY MHT]/ A M - K, Tyche seated left on rocks, holding grain ear and poppy; at feet, half-length figure of river god Kydnos swimming left. Very Fine Prieur 809. Macrinus, whose full name was Marcus Opellius Macrinus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 217 to 218. He came from a humble background and rose through the ranks of the Roman military to become an important figure in the empire. Before becoming emperor, Macrinus served as a praetorian prefect under Emperor Caracalla. In AD 217, after the assassination of Caracalla, Macrinus was proclaimed emperor by the Roman army. His rise to power was supported by the influential general and jurist Ulpius. Macrinus' reign was short and marked by challenges. One of his major actions was to negotiate peace with the Parthian Empire, which involved paying a significant ransom for the return of the Roman prisoners captured during Caracalla's failed campaign against the Parthians. However, Macrinus' rule faced internal opposition. He was not popular with the Roman Senate and the upper echelons of Roman society due to his non-aristocratic background. Additionally, his policies, including attempts to cut military spending and reduce the soldiers' donative, made him unpopular with the Roman army. In AD 218, a rebellion erupted among the legions in Syria, who proclaimed the 14-year-old cousin of Caracalla, Elagabalus (Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus), as emperor. Macrinus faced defeat in battle against the rebel forces, and he was ultimately overthrown. He was captured, and his supporters were executed. Macrinus' reign as emperor lasted only about one year, and he is often considered one of the "barracks emperors" during the tumultuous period known as the Crisis of the Third Century.



164 Cilicia. Tarsos. Gordian III AD 238-244. Bronze Æ 37 mm, 24,11 g ΑΥΤ Κ ΑΝΤ ΓΟΡΔΙΑΝΟΣ ΣΕΒ, Π Π, draped, cuirassed and radiate bust right / ΤΑΡΣΟΥ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΕΩΣ, Α Μ Κ Γ Β, Tranquillina, diademed and draped, standing r., clasping hands with Gordian III, laureate and togate, standing l. Very Fine RPC VII.2, 3143. Gordian III was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 238 to 244. He was born in AD 225 and became emperor at a young age after the death of his grandfather, Gordian I, and his father, Gordian II, during a revolt against the emperor Maximinus Thrax. As emperor, Gordian III was initially under the influence of his mother and advisors, but he eventually gained more independence as he matured. He was known for his handsome and youthful appearance, which earned him popularity among the Roman people. During his reign, Gordian III faced military conflicts, including campaigns against the Persians and Germanic tribes. His military commander, Timesitheus, played a crucial role in managing these campaigns and preserving the stability of the empire. However, in AD 244, Gordian III's reign came to an abrupt end when he died under suspicious circumstances while on a campaign in the East. His death marked the rise of Philip the Arab as the next Roman emperor.

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165 Cilicia. Tarsos. Gordian III AD 238-244. Bronze Æ 35 mm, 26,44 g [ΑΥΤ Κ Α]ΝΤ ΓΟΡΔΙ[ΑΝΟΣ ΣΕΒ], Π Π, draped, cuirassed and radiate bust right / ΤΑΡΣΟΥ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛ[ΕΩΣ] Α Μ Κ Γ Β, Artemis standing r., drawing arrow from quiver at shoulder, holding arrow and bow. Nearly Very Fine RPC VII.2, 3027.

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166 Cilicia. Tarsos. Philip I Arab AD 244-249. Bronze Æ 36 mm, 22,29 g ΑΥΤ ΚΑΙ Μ ΙΟΥ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΝ ΕΥΤ ΕΥΣ, Π Π, draped, cuirassed and radiate bust right / ΤΑΡΣΟΥ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΕΩΣ Α Μ Κ Γ Β, Artemis standing r., drawing arrow from quiver at shoulder, holding bow. Very Fine RPC VIII, — (unassigned; ID 3459).

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167 Cilicia. Tarsos. Philip I Arab AD 244-249. Civic year IAT (311) = 245/6 AD Bronze Æ 32 mm, 15,27 g ΑΥΤ Κ ΙΟΥ ΦΙΛΙΠ[ΠΟΝ ΕΥΣ ΣΕΒ], Π Π, draped, cuirassed and radiate bust right / ΠΟΜΠΗΙΟΠΟΛ ΙΑΤ ζ, Helios standing l., raising hand, holding torch and chlamys. Very Fine RPC VIII, — (unassigned; ID 2323).

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168 Cilicia. Titiopolis. Marcus Aurelius AD 161-180. Bronze Æ 32 mm, 12,31 g ΑΥΤΟΚΡ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΑΥΡΗΛΙΟΣ, cuirassed and laureate bust right / Zeus seated, l., holding cornucopia and long sceptre. Very Fine RPC IV.3, 10886 (temporary).

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169 Cappadocia. Caesarea. Titus AD 79-81. Hemidrachm AR 14 mm, 1,66 g ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΩΡ ΤΙΤΟΣ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΣΕΒΑΣ, laureate head right / Nike standing, right, wreath in right hand, palm in left hand. Very Fine RPC II 1661.

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170 Cappadocia. Caesarea. Trajan AD 98-117. Drachm AR 18 mm, 3,43 g ΑΥΤ ΚΑΙΣ ΝΕΡ ΤΡΑΙΑΝΟΣ ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡΜ, laureate head right / ΔΗΜ ΕΞ ΥΠΑΤ Β, clasped hands holding standard on prow. Very Fine RPC III 2995.

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171 Commagene. Samosata. Hadrian AD 117-138. Bronze Æ 16 mm, 3,47 g ΑΔΡΙΑΝΟΣ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΣ, laureate head right / C - A, E - T, Θ - N, winged caduceus. Very Fine RPC III 3415.

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172 Commagene. Uncertain mint. Tiberius AD 14-37. Dupondius Æ 30 mm, 12,32 g ΤΙ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΔΙΥΙ ΑΥΓΥΣΤΙ F ΑΥΓΥΣΤΥΣ, laureate head right / ΠΟΝΤ ΜΑΧΙΜ ΚΟΣ ΙΙΙ ΙΜΡ ΥΙΙ Τ[Ρ ΡΟΤ ΧΧΙΙ], caduceus between crossed cornucopias; c/m. Very Fine RPC I 3869.

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173 Seleucis and Pieria. Antioch. Aulus Gabinius, Proconsul 57-55 BC. In the name and types of Seleucid king Philip I Philadelphos Tetradrachm AR 28 mm, 14,86 g Diademed head to right / Zeus Nicephorus seated to left; [BA]ΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] [Φ]ΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ to right, [E]ΠΙΦΑΝΟΥ[Σ] [ΦΙ]ΛΑΔΕΛΦ[OZ] to left, Gabinius monogram to inner left; all within laurel wreath. Very Fine RPC I 4124; McAlee 1; Prieur 1; HGC 9, 1356.

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174 Seleucis and Pieria. Antioch. Augustus 27 BC-AD 14. Tetradrachm AR 27 mm, 14,81 g ΚΑΙΣΑΡΟΣ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΥ; laureate head of Augustus right / ΕΤΟΥΣ ζΚ ΝΙΚΗΣ; Tyche of Antioch seated right on rock, holding palm branch with her right hand, river Orontes swimming right at her feet, ΥΠΑ monogram and IB (= COS XII) in right field above ANT monogram. Very Fine RPC I 4151; Prieur 50.

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175 Seleucis and Pieria. Antioch. Caligula AD 37-41. Dated RY 3 of Caligula (38/9 AD) Tetradrachm AR 28 mm, 13,86 g [ΓΑΙΟΥ ΚΑΙΣΑΡΟΣ ΣΕΒΑ ΓΕΡΜΑ], laureate head right / ΑΓΡΙΠΠΕΙΝΗΣ ΑΝΤΙΟ ΜΗΤΡΟ, ΕΤ Γ, draped bust of Agrippina right. Nearly Very Fine RPC I 4168. Caligula, whose full name was Gaius Julius Caesar Augustus Germanicus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 37 to 41. He was born in AD 12 in Antium and was the third emperor of the Julio-Claudian dynasty. Caligula initially ascended to the throne with widespread support and high hopes, as he was the son of the popular and respected general Germanicus. However, his early reign was marked by benevolent policies, including freeing political prisoners and ending some unpopular taxes. Unfortunately, Caligula's mental state deteriorated rapidly, leading to increasingly erratic and tyrannical behavior. He displayed signs of megalomania, claiming to be a god and demanding excessive worship. He engaged in extravagant spending, leading to financial strain on the empire. His rule was characterized by cruelty and persecution, with executions and banishments of perceived enemies. He had a tumultuous relationship with the Roman Senate and the ruling class. Caligula's behavior became increasingly unpredictable, and in AD 41, he was assassinated by a group of conspirators, including members of the Praetorian Guard and the Senate. His death brought an end to his tumultuous and controversial reign. Caligula's reign remains infamous in history, known for his excesses, cruelty, and abuse of power. His short and turbulent rule serves as a cautionary tale of the dangers of unchecked authority and the potential consequences of an unstable leader in a position of great power.

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176 Seleucis and Pieria. Antioch. Nero AD 54-68. Dated RY10 and year 111 of the Caesarean Era = 62/63 AD Tetradrachm AR 26 mm, 15,45 g ΝΕΡΩΝ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΥ, laureate bust right, wearing aegis / ΕΤΟΥ[Σ] ΑΙΡ • Ι, eagle standing right, with spread wings, on thunderbolt; palm branch and pellet in right field. Good Very Fine RPC I 4186; McAlee 263; Prieur 87.

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177 Seleucis and Pieria. Antioch. Nero AD 54-68. Dated RY6 and year 108 of the Caesarean Era = 59/60 AD Tetradrachm AR 25 mm, 15,40 g ΝΕΡΩΝΟΣ ΚΑΙΣΑΡΟΣ [ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΥ], laureate bust right, wearing aegis / Eagle standing left on thunderbolt, wings displayed; in left field, palm branch; ς above HP (dates) to right. Very Fine Prieur 80; RPC I 418; McAlee 256b. Prieur notes in his book (p. 13): "This is the first coin where a palm-branch appears in the field. We have noted in our introduction to Antioch that it was a religious symbol linked to rites of aspersion. The suppression of the Tyche, which bore the palm in hand, does not make the palm disappear; it must have had a meaning in itself."

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178 Seleucis and Pieria. Antioch. Domitian AD 81-96. Bronze Æ 31 mm, 14,93 g [IMP DO]MITIANVS [CAES AVG], laureate head left / SC within wreath. Very Fine RPC II 2024.

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179 Seleucis and Pieria. Antioch. Severus Alexander AD 222-235. Bronze Æ 34 mm, 19,41 g ΑΥΤΟ ΚΑΙC ΜΑΡ ΑΥΡ CΕ ΑΛΞΞΑΝΔΡ CΕΒ, cuirassed and laureate bust right / ΑΝΤΙΟΧΕΩΝ ΜΗ Κ Δ Ε S C, Tyche of the City seated on rock, l., holding corn ears; at her feet, river god Orontes swimming, l.; above, ram leaping, l., looking back; to l., sometimes star. Very Fine RPC VI, 8086 (temporary).

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180 Coele. Heliopolis. Otacilia Severa AD 244-249. Bronze Æ 29 mm, 16,01 g OTACILIA SEVERA AVG, diademed, draped and cuirassed bust right / COL IVL AVG FEL, Fortuna standing facing, holding rudder and cornucopia, flanked by male figures each holding a torch in upraised hand; all within billowing canopy held by two female figures on pedestals; HEL in exergue. Very Fine RPC VIII, — (unassigned; ID 6509).

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181 Phoenicia. Berytus. Elagabal AD 218-222. Bronze Æ 33 mm, 7,43 g IMP CAES M AVR ANTONINVS AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust to right / [COL IVL AVG FEL], tetrastyle gateway with central arch surmounted by figure with raised right hand, riding lion or panther to right; below arch, figure of Marsyas standing to right on basis, holding wine skin over shoulder. Very Fine BMC 192; Rouvier 572.



182 Phoenicia. Berytus. Valerian I AD 253-260. Bronze Æ 34 mm, 16,51 g IMP C P LIC VALERIANVS AVG, cuirassed, radiate and draped bust right / COL IVL [AVG FEL] / B[ER], Astarte standing facing holding standard ending in cross in r. and aphaelaston in l. at waist, l. foot on prow; she is crowned by. Very Fine RPC X, — (unassigned; ID 62826). Valerian, whose full name was Publius Licinius Valerianus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 253 to 260. He came from an aristocratic family and held various important positions in the Roman government before ascending to the throne. Valerian's reign was marked by both successes and challenges. In the early years of his rule, he shared power with his son Gallienus, who was appointed as co-emperor. Together, they attempted to address the various crises facing the Roman Empire, including external invasions, economic difficulties, and internal rebellions. One of the notable events during Valerian's reign was his campaign against the Sassanian Empire (ancient Persia). In AD 260, Valerian led a military expedition into Persia but was defeated and captured by the Sassanian king Shapur I. This marked a humiliating moment in Roman history as Valerian became the first Roman emperor to be captured alive by a foreign enemy. Valerian's captivity had a profound impact on the Roman Empire, causing political instability and further exacerbating the challenges faced by the government. During his captivity, Valerian was subjected to various humiliations and was used as a footstool by the Sassanian king, highlighting the humiliation suffered by the Roman Empire. Valerian's exact fate during captivity remains uncertain, and it is believed that he died in captivity around AD 260, after possibly being skinned as a memorial.



183 Phoenicia. Sidon. Annia Faustina, Augusta AD 221. Bronze Æ 27 mm, 12,54 g ANNIA FAVSTINA AVG, diademed and draped bust right, wearing crescent on shoulders; to right c/m: temple / COL AVR PIA METRO SID, three-quarter view of two-wheel car of Astarte to right, with shrine with four columns within which baetyl on two supports; on the roof, four palm branches Very Fine RPC VI, 8524 (temporary); Rouvier 1572.

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184 Phoenicia. Tyre. Elagabal AD 218-222. Bronze Æ 28 mm, 10,02 g [IMP CAES M AV AN]TONINVS [AV], laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right, seen from behind / [TVRIORVM], Cadmus standing right, on galley prow, looking back, holding spear and placing hand on trophy behind him; before him, murex shell; behind him, small palm tree. Nearly Very Fine Rouvier 2381; RPC VI 8610 (temporary).

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185 Phoenicia. Tyre. Gallienus AD 253-268. Bronze Æ 27 mm, 13,42 g IMP C P LIC GALLIENVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right, seen from front / COL TVRO MET[RO], Hermes-Thoth standing facing, head left, holding papyrus roll in right hand and caduceus in left hand; to left, ibis standing left; to right, murex shell set upon palm tree. Very Fine RPC X, — (unassigned; ID 62982); Rouvier 2529. Gallienus, whose full name was Publius Licinius Egnatius Gallienus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 253 to 268. He was the son of Emperor Valerian and the co-emperor alongside his father during the early years of his reign. Gallienus faced a tumultuous and challenging period in Roman history known as the Crisis of the Third Century. During his reign, the Roman Empire was threatened by external invasions from various barbarian tribes, internal revolts, economic troubles, and the breakaway of various regions seeking independence. As co-emperor with his father, Gallienus was tasked with the defense of the western provinces of the Roman Empire while his father Valerian focused on the eastern front against the Sassanian Empire (ancient Persia). However, in AD 260, Emperor Valerian was defeated and captured by the Sassanian king, Shapur I, resulting in a significant blow to the Roman Empire. Gallienus then ruled as the sole emperor, facing multiple challenges from both external and internal enemies. He pursued a policy of co-opting some of the invading tribes into the Roman military and granting some regions greater autonomy to stabilize the empire. Despite his efforts, Gallienus faced opposition from within the Roman military. In 268 AD, he was assassinated in a conspiracy led by his own officers, and Claudius II Gothicus was proclaimed as the new Roman emperor.

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186 Samaria. Caesarea Maritima. Vespasian AD 69-79. Dated 'New Holy Year' 3 = AD 70/71 Tetradrachm AR 26 mm, 14,10 g [AVT]OKP KAIΣ OYЄΣΠAΣIA[N], laureate head to right, aegis over far shoulder / ETOVΣ Γ IEPOV, eagle standing to left on palm, with wings spread; club to left. Very Fine RPC II 1965.

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187 Judaea. Ascalon. Domitian AD 81-96. RY 191 = 87/8 AD Bronze Æ 23 mm, 11,68 g CEB[AC]TOC, laureate head right / [ΑΣ]ΚΑΛΩ, Tyche standing left on prow, holding standard and aphlaston; in left field incense altar; in right field dove standing left; 4P/[A] (date) to lower right. Very Fine RPC II 2215; Sng Ans-699.

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188 Judaea. Jerusalem. Procurators. Antonius Felix AD 52-60. In the name of Nero Claudius Caesar and Britannicus. Dated RY 14 of Claudius=CE 54 Prutah Æ 17 mm, 2,58 g ΝΕΡΩ ΚΛΑΥ ΚΑΙCΑΡ (=Nero Claudius Caesar), two crossed shields over two crossed spears / ΒΡΙΤ (above) Κ-ΑΙ (flanking) (=Britannicus Caesar), palm tree, L ΙΔ (date) across field. Nearly Very Fine TJC 340; GBC 1348; RPC I 4971.

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189 Egypt. Alexandria. Vespasian and Titus AD 69-79. Dated RY 1 = 6 AD Billon-Tetradrachm 24 mm, 12,34 g [ΑΥΤ ΤΙΤ ΦΛΑΥΙ] ΟΥΕΣΠΑΣΙΑΝ ΚΑΙΣ, laureate head of Vespasian right; LA (date) before / [ΦΛΑΥΙ ΟΥ]ΕΣΠΑΣΙΑΝΟΣ ΚΑΙΣ; laureate and cuirassed bust of Titus right. Very Fine Köln 269; Dattari (Savio) 343; K&G 20.5; RPC II 2405; Emmett 207.1.

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190 Egypt. Alexandria. Hadrian AD 117-138. Dated RY 12 = AD 127/8 Billon-Tetradrachm 25 mm, 13,03 g ΑΥΤ ΚΑΙ ΤΡΑΙ ΑΔΡΙΑ CEB, laureate draped and cuirassed bust right, seen from behind / [ΠΑΤΗΡ] ΠΑΤΡΙΔΟΣ, clasped hands; L ΙΒ (date) across fields. Very Fine RPC III 5715.

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191 Egypt. Alexandria. Hadrian AD 117-138. Dated RY 21 = AD 136/7 Billon-Tetradrachm 26 mm, 13,50 g ΑΥΤ ΚΑΙC ΤΡΑ ΑΔΡΙΑΝΟΣ C[EB], laureate head right, drapery on left shoulder / Demeter standing facing, head left, wearing crescent, holding ears of corn and long torch; L ΚΑ (date) across fields. Very Fine RPC III 6131.

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192 Egypt. Alexandria. Hadrian AD 117-138. Dated RY 19 = AD 134/5 Billon-Tetradrachm 23 mm, 13,44 g [A]VT KAI[C TPAIAN] AΔPIANOC CEB, laureate head left / L ENNEAK [Δ], bust of Nilus right, wearing taenia and with slight drapery and cornucopia over shoulder. Very Fine Geissen 1148; Dattari (Savio) 7450-51; RPC III 5941.

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193 L. Julius 141 BC. Rome Denarius AR 21 mm, 3,83 g Helmeted head of Roma to right; behind, grain ear / L · IVLI, Victory driving galloping biga to right. Very Fine Babelon, (Julia) 3; Crawford 323/1; Sydenham 555.

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194 M. Carbo 122 BC. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,80 g Helmeted head of Roma right, laurel branch behind, X below chin / Jupiter driving quadriga right holding thunderbolt and eagle tipped scepter, M CARBO below horses, ROMA in exergue. Very Fine Crawford 276/1.

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195 Cn. Blasio Cn. f 112-111 BC. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,85 g CN.BLASIO.CN.F, helmeted head of Mars (Scipio Africanus?) to right; behind, acrostolium / ROMA, Jupiter standing facing, holding sceptre in right hand and thunderbolt in left, between Juno and Minerva; the latter raising her right hand to crown him. In lower central right field, Π. Very Fine Crawford 296/1d; Sydenham 561b.

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196 L. Thorius Balbus 105 BC. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 3,92 g I · S · M · R, head of Juno Sospita right, wearing goat skin / L · THORIVS BALBVS, bull charging right, head facing, Q above. Very Fine Crawford 316/1.

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197 C. Coelius Calvus 104 BC. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,87 g Helmeted head of Roma left / CALD, Victory driving galloping biga left, holding reins, X in exergue. Very Fine RSC-Babelon (Coelia) 3; Crawford 318/1b; Sydenham 582a.

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198 Gargilius, Ogulnius and Vergilius 86 BC. Rome As Æ 27 mm, 13,41 g Laureate head of bearded Janus; I (mark of value) above / Prow of galley left. Very Fine Crawford 350A/3f; Sydenham 722e.

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199 P. Furius Crassipes 84 BC. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,98 g AED CVR, turreted head of Cybele right; foot to left / CRASSIPE[S], curule chair inscribed [P FOV]RIVS. Very Fine Crawford 356/1a; Sydenham 735; Furia 20.

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200 C. Norbanus 83 BC. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 4,03 g C • NORBANVS, diademed head of Venus right, wearing necklace, TXVI behind / Corn ear, fasces with axe, and caduceus. Very Fine Crawford 356.

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201 L. Rustius 76 BC. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,90 g SC/ X, helmeted head of Mars right / L•RVST[I], ram standing right. Good Very Fine Crawford 389/1.

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202 C. Hosidius C. f. Geta 68 BC. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 3,55 g GETA III•VIR, diademed and draped bust of Diana right, with bow and quiver over shoulder / C•HOSIDI•C•F, Calydonian Boar standing right, pierced by spear and harried by hound below. Very Fine Crawford 407/2; Sydenham 903; Hosidia 1; RBW 1456.

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203 M. Plaetorius M. F. Cestianus 67 BC. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 3,51 g Diademed and draped bust of Juno Moneta right; MONETA downward behind; S·C beneath chin / Athlete running right, holding palm and caestus; strigil below; L·PLAETORI downward behind; L·F·Q·S·C upward before. Very Fine Crawford 396/1b; Sydenham 792a.

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204 P. Fonteius P. f. Capito 55 BC. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 3,90 g [P·FONTEIVS·P·F·]CAPITO·III·VIR, helmeted and draped bust of Mars right; trophy over shoulder / MN·FONT·TR·MIL, Warrior on horseback galloping right, thrusting spear downward at kneeling enemy in Gallic helmet, who holds sword and shield; to lower left, another enemy warrior, kneeling right; Gallic helmet and shield to lower right. Nearly Extremely Fine, lovely old cabinet toning Crawford 429/1; BMCRR Rome 3851-5; RSC Fonteia 17; Sydenham 900.

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205 Julius Caesar 49-48 BC. Military mint travelling with Caesar Denarius AR 21 mm, 3,81 g CAESAR, Elephant advancing right, trampling upon horned serpent / Emblems of the pontificate: simpulum, aspergillum, securis and apex. Very Fine Crawford 443/1; CRI 9. Gaius Julius Caesar, born in 100 BC into a prominent Roman family, stands as a towering figure in history due to his multifaceted roles as a military general, statesman, and key player in the transition from the Roman Republic to the Roman Empire. His journey began with a successful military career, notably his campaigns in Gaul from 58 to 50 BC, which not only expanded Roman territories but also elevated his political influence. The formation of the First Triumvirate, an informal alliance with Pompey and Crassus, marked a significant political move. However, tensions escalated, leading to the Roman Civil War. Caesar's decisive victory at Pharsalus in 48 BC cemented his power. Returning to Rome as dictator, he implemented reforms and introduced the Julian Calendar. His rule, though marked by achievements, aroused concerns among senators about his increasing authority. The infamous Ides of March in 44 BC saw his assassination by a group of conspirators, triggering political upheaval. In the aftermath, the Second Triumvirate emerged, with Octavian (Caesar's adopted son) at its helm. Julius Caesar's legacy extends beyond his military triumphs; his name became synonymous with imperial rule, and his influence paved the way for the Roman Empire. The month of July bears testament to his enduring impact on history, encapsulating a complex figure whose actions reshaped the course of ancient Rome.

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206 Man. Acilius Glabrio 49 BC. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,87 g Laureate head of Salus right; SALVTIS behind / Salus standing left, leaning against column and holding serpent; MN•ACILIVS behind; III•VIR•VALETV before. Very Fine Crawford 442/1a; RSC Acilia 8.

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207 Q. Sicinius and C. Coponius 49 BC. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 3,70 g Head of Apollo right, hair tied with band, below, star, before, Q SICINIVS, behind, III VIR / Club upright, on which hangs lion's skin (head in profile), on right, bow and C COPONIVS, on left, arrow and PR S C. Very Fine Crawford 444/1a; Coponia 1, Sicinia 1; Sydenham 939.



208 Augustus 27 BC-AD 14. Colonia Patricia Denarius AR 17 mm, 3,25 g CA[ESAR] AVGVSTO, laureate head right / MAR-[VLT], Aquila between two standards within domed round hexastyle temple. Very Fine RIC 105a. The Temple of Mars Ultor, intricately tied to the persona of Augustus, stands as a testament to the intersection of political power, military prowess, and divine favor in ancient Rome. Commissioned by Augustus to commemorate the Battle of Philippi in 42 BC, where he and Mark Antony avenged Julius Caesar's assassination by defeating Brutus and Cassius, this temple dedicated to Mars Ultor (Mars the Avenger) held profound symbolism. Nestled in the heart of the Roman Forum, the temple followed the classical Roman architectural blueprint, featuring a raised podium, columns, and a central chamber housing a statue of Mars Ultor. Its dedication on May 12, 22 BC, strategically coincided with Augustus's birthday, underscoring the divine sanction he sought for his avenging mission. Mars Ultor, revered as the god of war and vengeance, embodied the retaliatory spirit that Augustus sought to channel. The temple's purpose extended beyond architectural grandeur; it was a tangible embodiment of Augustus's political narrative, emphasizing his role as avenger and guardian of Rome. As part of the imperial cult, the Temple of Mars Ultor became a focal point for emperors, who, following Augustus's example, visited to make offerings and seek divine support for their military endeavors. The temple's significance persisted, serving as a backdrop to the intricate relationship between Roman leaders and the gods they sought to align with for political legitimacy. While the physical remnants of the Temple of Mars Ultor may be scant today, its historical echoes reverberate through the annals of Rome's transformation from a republic to an empire. This architectural marvel encapsulates the amalgamation of religious devotion, political strategy, and martial triumph that defined the Augustan era in ancient Rome.



209 Augustus 27 BC-AD 14. Lugdunum (Lyon) Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,80 g [AVGVSTVS] DIVI F, laureate head right / IMP XII, bull butting right. Very Fine RIC I 187a; RSC 155. Ex Alain Lagrange Collection. Ex CNG E-Auction 173, Lot 383. Octavian, also known as Augustus, was a prominent Roman statesman and military leader who played a pivotal role in transforming the Roman Republic into the Roman Empire. Born in 63 BC in Rome, he was the great-nephew and adopted son of Julius Caesar. Octavian's political journey began when he was named Caesar's heir in his will after Caesar's assassination in 44 BC. Aligning himself with Mark Antony and Lepidus, he formed the powerful Second Triumvirate, seeking vengeance for Caesar's death by defeating his assassins. As conflicts arose within the Triumvirate, Octavian emerged as the dominant figure. The alliance between Octavian and Antony collapsed into a bitter civil war, culminating in the decisive Battle of Actium in 31 BC, where Octavian emerged victorious. In 27 BC, Octavian relinquished his extraordinary powers and accepted the title "Augustus" from the Senate, marking the inception of the Roman Empire. Though he held the title of princeps (first citizen), Augustus effectively became the first Roman Emperor. Under Augustus' rule, the Roman Empire experienced an era of relative peace known as the Pax Romana. He introduced various reforms to strengthen the state and initiated extensive building projects across the empire, leaving a lasting architectural legacy. Augustus' reign, which lasted for 41 years until his death in AD 14, marked the end of the Julio-Claudian dynasty and the beginning of the Roman Empire. His ability to consolidate power, navigate complex political waters, and maintain stability earned him admiration and secured his position as one of Rome's most influential leaders.



210 Augustus 27 BC-AD 14. Lugdunum (Lyon) Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,79 g AVGVSTVS DIVI•F, laureate head of Augustus to right / C•CAE[S] / AVGVS•F, Gaius Caesar on horseback galloping right, holding sword and shield in his left hand and reins in his right; behind, aquila between two signa. Very Fine RIC 119; CBN 1463. Cohen 40. Ex Ibercoin Auction 17, Lot 108.

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211 Augustus 27 BC-AD 14. C. Marius C.f. Tro(mentina tribu), moneyer. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,72 g AVGVSTVS, bare head right, lituus behind / C MARIVS C F TRO III VIR, Galloping quadriga right, bearing an upright palm frond. Nearly Extremely Fine RIC 399; Cohen 456. Ex Bertolami Fine Arts Auction 19, Lot 482.

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212 Nero Claudius Drusus 9 BC. Rome Sestertius Æ 36 mm, 26,93 g NERO CLAVDIVS DRVSVS G[ERMANICVS IMP], bare head to left / [TI CLAVDIVS CAESAR AVG] P M TR P IMP, emperor seated to left on curule chair, holding branch, arms at base; SC below. Fine RIC 93 (Claudius). Nero Claudius Drusus, commonly known as Drusus the Elder, was the son of Roman Emperor Tiberius and Vipsania Agrippina. Adopted by Augustus in 4 AD, he took on the name Drusus Julius Caesar. In 4 or 5 AD, Drusus married his cousin Livilla, the widow of Gaius Caesar, Augustus' grandson. They welcomed a daughter named Livia Julia soon after. Drusus demonstrated military and political prowess, becoming a permanent member of a Roman Senate committee in 13 AD, established by Augustus to manage Senate affairs. Despite his capabilities, Augustus favored the Julian branch and urged Tiberius to adopt Germanicus, Drusus' nephew, as the heir, excluding Drusus from the succession. After Augustus' death in 14 AD, Drusus quelled a rebellion in Pannonia in 14 AD, earning an Ovation in 16 AD, jointly celebrated with Germanicus. He served as consul in 15 AD and governed Illyricum from 17 to 20 AD. In 19 AD, Livilla gave birth to twins, Tiberius Gemellus and Germanicus Gemellus, with only Tiberius surviving infancy. Drusus' death in 23 AD, suspected to be orchestrated by Sejanus through poisoning, positioned him as Tiberius' sole heir and co-ruler. Sejanus' manipulation of Livilla, revealed after his fall in 31 AD, exposed a web of political intrigue, leading to the execution of Livilla and others involved in Drusus' death. Drusus' life and demise offer a glimpse into the complex dynamics and power struggles of the Roman Empire during this period.



213 Caligula AD 37-41. Struck AD 37-38. Rome Sestertius Æ 35 mm, 26,82 g C•CAESAR•AVG•GERMANICVS•P•M•TR•POT, Pietas seated to left, holding patera and resting arm on small draped standing figure; PIETAS in exergue / Emperor standing to left, holding patera over garlanded altar, flanked by victimarius holding bull for sacrifice and attendant holding a patera; garlanded hexastyle temple of Divus Augustus in background, pediment decorated with sacrificial scene, and with quadriga and Victories as acroteria, and statues of Romulus and Aeneas along roof line; DIVO-AVG S-C across fields. Nearly Very Fine RIC I 36; C. 11; BMCRE 41. Pietas, a paramount virtue in Roman culture, emphasized fulfilling responsibilities and fostering exemplary relations within family, towards gods, and the fatherland. The divine personification Pietas, often depicted on coins, symbolized this sacred duty, conducting a sacrifice. The Temple of Divus Augustus, erected to honor Augustus, stood between the Palatine and Capitoline Hills. While its Ionic hexastyle design is commonly depicted on coins, its exact dimensions remain unknown. Initiated by the Senate after Augustus' death in 14 CE, the temple was completed and dedicated by Caligula in 37 CE, emphasizing his legitimacy as Augustus' descendant and showcasing personal pietas. This coin's reverse commemorates the completion of the Temple of Divus Augustus on the Palatine Hill, coinciding with its striking. The temple was dedicated over the final two days of August, a month renamed in honor of Augustus. Caligula, serving as Pontifex Maximus, orchestrated elaborate sacrificial ceremonies, featuring a two-day horse race and the slaughter of 400 bears and wild beasts from Libya. The temple, documented until May AD 218, eventually met an unknown fate, likely being entirely dismantled, with its stones repurposed for subsequent constructions.



214 Claudius AD 41-54. Rome Sestertius Æ 35 mm, 25,47 g [TI CLAV]DIVS CAESAR AVG P M TR P IMP, laureate head right / EX S C / OB / CIVES / SERVATOS, legend within wreath. Very Fine RIC 96. Claudius, full name Tiberius Claudius Caesar Augustus Germanicus, was the fourth Roman Emperor, reigning from 41 to 54 AD. Born in 10 BC, he belonged to the Julio-Claudian dynasty, being the nephew of Emperor Tiberius and the grandson of Mark Antony and Octavia, sister of Augustus. Claudius faced physical disabilities, and his family often underestimated him. However, he proved himself as a capable administrator, historian, and builder during his rule. Despite being a respected figure, he was largely excluded from public office by his family until his unexpected accession. In 41 AD, after the assassination of his nephew Caligula, the Praetorian Guard proclaimed Claudius emperor. Despite doubts about his capabilities, Claudius proved to be an effective and efficient ruler. He expanded the empire by annexing Mauretania, Thrace, Lycia, and Judaea. He also initiated important public works projects, such as the construction of the Aqua Claudia aqueduct and the expansion of the port at Ostia. Claudius had a particular interest in legal reforms, including the extension of Roman citizenship to various provinces. He also focused on the imperial bureaucracy and freedmen, influencing the governance of the Roman Empire. His personal life was marked by marital troubles, with three marriages, including his infamous marriage to Agrippina the Younger. His death in 54 AD, widely suspected to be the result of poisoning orchestrated by Agrippina, paved the way for Nero's ascension to the throne. Despite the controversies surrounding his family life, Claudius left a lasting impact on the Roman Empire through his administrative reforms and infrastructure projects.



215 Nero AD 54-68. Lugdunum (Lyon) Sestertius Æ 34 mm, 33,89 g [NERO CLAV]D CAESAR [AVG GER P M TR P IMP P P], laureate head of Nero to right, small globe at point of bust / DECVR SIO, Nero riding on horseback to right, holding spear, behind him rides a soldier carrying a vexillum over his shoulder, S C across field. Nearly Very Fine, flan crack BMC 311; Cohen 86; RIC 396. Nero initially showed promise but eventually succumbed to extravagance and violence. He ascended to power at a young age and was fond of the arts and horse racing. His mother, Agrippina, orchestrated his rise by eliminating rivals, but their relationship soured over time. Nero began making independent decisions with guidance from his tutor Seneca. He implemented positive changes early in his rule, such as ending secret trials and aiding disaster-stricken cities. However, Nero's behavior turned dark. He engaged in excessive indulgence and rumored immoral activities, including relationships with married women and young boys. He also engaged in random acts of murder. Nero's strained relationship with his mother culminated in his attempt to assassinate her. Failing initially, he later succeeded by using soldiers. As Nero's depravity became more evident, Rome faced ominous signs, including earthquakes and disasters. The Great Fire of Rome further shook the city, leading to rumors that Nero sang while it burned. With his mother dead and Seneca retired, Nero's tyranny knew no bounds. In AD 65, a plot to assassinate Nero surfaced, but it was discovered and suppressed. Nero intensified his brutal actions, resulting in numerous executions, including Seneca. Revolts broke out, and the Senate declared Nero a public enemy. Fearing for his life, Nero fled and ultimately committed suicide. With his death, the Roman Empire lacked leadership, and power struggles among rival generals ensued, leading to civil unrest.



216 Nero AD 54-68. Rome Aureus AV 19 mm, 6,97 g IMP NERO CAESAR AVGVSTVS, laureate head of Nero to right / I V P P I T E R C V S T O S, Jupiter seated left on throne, holding thunderbolt in his right hand and sceptre with his left. Nearly Very Fine, scratches on obverse and reverse RIC 63, Calicó 413, BMC 77-78. "IUPPITER CUSTOS" translates to "Jupiter the Guardian." In this context, Jupiter is depicted as the protector of the Emperor and the Roman Empire. Nero felt a special connection to this god, particularly after the failed Pisonian Conspiracy in AD 65. This conspiracy, led by Gaius Calpurnius Piso and involving members of the Roman aristocracy, aimed to assassinate Nero. The exact details of the conspiracy and the individuals involved vary according to historical sources. Nonetheless, the plot ultimately failed as one of the conspirators revealed the plans, leading to Nero's swift retribution, with many conspirators executed. Gaius Calpurnius Piso took his own life to avoid punishment. Following the Pisonian Conspiracy, Nero's rule became even more tyrannical and brutal, further tarnishing his reputation. His reign came to an end with his suicide in 68 AD. Nero was the last ruler of the Julio-Claudian dynasty, marking the conclusion of this dynasty's influence in Roman history.

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217 Nero AD 54-68. Rome As Æ 28 mm, 10,03 g NERO CAESAR AVG GERM IMP, laureate head right / PACE P R VBIQ PARTA IANVM CLVSIT, temple of Janus with latticed window on left and closed door on right; S-C across fields. Very Fine RIC² 306. The Temple of Janus, known as the "Templum Jani" in Latin, was a temple in ancient Rome dedicated to the god Janus. Janus was a unique Roman deity associated with doorways, gates, transitions, and the beginning of events. What set Janus apart was his two faces, one looking forward and the other backward, symbolizing his role in transitions and passages. The Temple of Janus was distinctive for its architectural design. Unlike many Roman temples that had a closed-cell, the Temple of Janus was an open-fronted structure. It consisted of gates or archways on both ends, representing the doors of the god Janus, and was located in the Roman Forum. According to historical sources, the gates were kept closed during times of peace and opened during times of war. The opening and closing of the gates symbolized the state of conflict or peace in the Roman Empire. It is said that the gates were rarely closed, indicating the frequent military campaigns and conflicts engaged in by the Romans. The concept of "closing the gates of Janus" became a metaphor for peace, and the gates were closed only a few times in Roman history, such as during the reign of Augustus, signifying a rare period of peace. The Temple of Janus thus served both a religious and symbolic function in ancient Rome, embodying the Roman mindset toward war and peace. Unfortunately, no remains of the Temple of Janus survive today, but its historical significance remains notable in Roman history and literature.



218 Domitian as Caesar AD 69-81. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,06 g CAESAR AVG F DOMITIANVS COS V[I], laureate head right / PRINCEPS IVVENTVTIS, Salus standing right, resting on column, feeding snake out of patera. Very Fine RIC 1084; BMCRE 265; RSC 384. Domitian, whose full name was Titus Flavius Caesar Domitianus Augustus, served as Caesar before becoming the Roman Emperor. Born on October 24, AD 51, he was the second son of the Roman Emperor Vespasian and the younger brother of Titus. Domitian's ascent to power followed the Flavian dynasty established by his father and brother. In AD 69, a tumultuous year known as the Year of the Four Emperors, Vespasian emerged victorious, stabilizing the Roman Empire. After Vespasian's death in AD 79, Titus succeeded him, but his reign was short-lived due to his sudden death in AD 81. Following Titus' demise, Domitian assumed the role of Caesar. As Caesar, Domitian held a position of great importance in the Roman political structure. The title "Caesar" originally referred to a family name but evolved into a title indicating the heir to the throne. Domitian's period as Caesar was essentially a period of apprenticeship and preparation for his eventual role as Emperor. In AD 81, upon the death of his brother Titus, Domitian became the Roman Emperor, marking the beginning of his fifteen-year reign. His rule was characterized by both achievements and controversies, including his authoritarian style, ambitious building projects, and conflicts with the Roman Senate. Domitian's reign came to an end when he was assassinated in AD 96, leading to the ascension of Nerva as the next Roman Emperor. Despite the controversies surrounding Domitian's rule, he left a lasting impact on Roman history, both for his achievements and the challenges he faced during his time as Caesar and Emperor.

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219 Domitian as Caesar AD 69-81. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,07 g CAESAR DIVI F DOMITIANVS COS VII, laureate head right / PRINCEPS IVVENTVTIS, lighted and garlanded altar. Very Fine RIC² 266 (Titus).

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220 Vespasian AD 69-79. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,46 g IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG, laureate head right / IOVIS CVSTOS, Jupiter standing facing, sacrificing from patera over altar and holding sceptre. Very Fine RIC 849; BMCRE 276; RSC 222. Vespasian was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 69 to 79. He was born in AD 9 into a family of equestrian rank in the town of Falacrinae, near Rome. Vespasian had a successful military and political career before eventually becoming emperor. In AD 69, a year known as the "Year of the Four Emperors" due to civil wars and political instability, Vespasian emerged victorious as a contender for the imperial throne. He founded the Flavian dynasty, which ruled Rome for the next 27 years. Vespasian is best remembered for his efforts in restoring stability to the Roman Empire after a period of chaos. His reign saw the completion of important public works projects, such as the construction of the Flavian Amphitheatre, popularly known as the Colosseum, which became an iconic symbol of Roman engineering and entertainment. He was also known for his financial reforms and rebuilding Rome after a devastating fire in AD 70. Vespasian's practical approach to governing and emphasis on public welfare earned him popularity among the Roman people. Vespasian died in AD 79 and was succeeded by his son, Titus. He was regarded as a competent and pragmatic ruler who restored order and prosperity to Rome after a turbulent period in its history.

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221 Vespasian AD 69-79. Struck under Titus. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,20 g DIVVS AVGVSTVS VESPASIANVS, laureate bust right / Captive Jew seated at foot of trophy on which Victory, standing left, places a shield; EX-SC across fields. Good Very Fine RIC 364.

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222 Vespasian AD 69-79. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 2,68 g IMP CAES VESP AVG CENS, laureate head right / [P]ONTIF MAXIM, emperor seated to right on curule chair, holding sceptre and branch Very Fine RIC II 1, 546; BMCRE 98; RSC 387.

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223 Vespasian AD 69-79. Judaea Capta" issue. Struck ca. 69-70 AD. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 2,37 g IM[P CAES]AR [VESPASI]ANVS AVG, laureate head right / [I]VDAEA, Judaea seated right, with head resting upon hand in attitude of mourning; trophy to left. Very Fine RIC II 2; BMCRE 35; RSC 226.

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224 Vespasian AD 69-79. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,38 g IMP CAES VESP AVG CENS, laureate head right / PONTIF MAXIM, Vespasian seated right on curule chair, holding sceptre and branch. Very Fine RIC II 546.

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225 Vespasian AD 69-79. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,05 g IMP CAES VESP AVG CENS, laureate head right / PONTIF MAXIM, Vespasian seated right on curule chair, holding sceptre and branch. Very Fine RIC II 546.

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226 Vespasian AD 69-79. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 3,41 g IMP CAESAR VES[PASIANVS AV]G, laureate head right / COS ITER [TR POT], Pax seated to left, holding branch and caduceus. Nearly Extremely Fine RIC II.1 29; BMCRE 26; RSC 94h.

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227 Vespasian AD 69-79. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,10 g IMP C[AES VES]P AVG P M [CO]S IIII, laureate head right / AVGVSTVS, augural and pontifical emblems: simpulum, sprinkler, jug and lituus. Very Fine RIC II.1 356; BMCRE 64; RSC 45.

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228 Vespasian AD 69-79. Rome Sestertius Æ 32 mm, 25,75 g IMP CAES VESPAS AVG P M TR P P P COS III, laureate head right / PAX AVGVSTI / S - C, Pax standing left, holding branch and cornucopia. Nearly Very Fine RIC 243.

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229 Vitellius AD 69. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 2,82 g [A VITELLI]VS GERM IMP AVG [TR P], laureate head right / CONCOR[DIA] P R, Concordia seated left, holding patera and cornucopia. Fine RIC 90; BMCRE 20; RSC 18. Vitellius was a Roman emperor who briefly ruled in the Year of the Four Emperors. He reigned for a very short period in AD 69, often referred to as the "Year of the Four Emperors" because it was a year of intense political turmoil and civil war in the Roman Empire. After the suicide of Emperor Nero in AD 68, Galba, the governor of Hispania, declared himself emperor. However, Galba's rule was unpopular among the Roman legions, and as a result, Otho, the governor of Lusitania, orchestrated a coup and had Galba murdered in AD 69. Otho then became emperor. But Otho's reign was also short-lived. A few months later Vitellius, the governor of Germania Inferior (a province in the Roman Empire), rebelled against Otho's rule and marched his forces toward Rome. Otho's forces were defeated in the First Battle of Bedriacum, and Otho subsequently committed suicide. Vitellius became the new Roman emperor but faced immediate challenges to his legitimacy. His reign was marked by chaos and extravagance, which further alienated the Roman people and the Senate. Additionally, his inability to handle the rebellions in the eastern provinces led to further instability. In response, the legions in the eastern provinces declared their support for Vespasian, the governor of Judea and a skilled military commander. Vespasian's forces advanced towards Rome and Vitellius was deposed after just a few months on the throne. In a final act of violence and desperation, Vitellius's supporters clashed with Vespasian's forces in Rome, leading to the destruction of much of the city and the death of many of its inhabitants. Ultimately, Vespasian's forces emerged victorious, and Vespasian became the next Roman emperor, putting an end to the Year of the Four Emperors and restoring stability to the Roman Empire. Vitellius was executed, and his short and troubled reign came to an end.



230 Titus, as Caesar AD 76-78. Struck ca. 71/72 AD. Ephesos Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,12 g [IMPE]RATOR T CAESAR [AVGVSTI F], laureate head right / PACI [AVG]VSTAE, Victory advancing right, holding wreath in right hand and palm over left shoulder; [EPHE] to lower right. Very Fine BMC 468; Cohen 124-5; RIC 1441-2; RIC 1441 (Vespasian). Titus Flavius Caesar Vespasianus Augustus, better known as Titus, was a Roman Emperor whose brief reign from AD 79 to 81 left a lasting impression on the history of Rome. Born in AD 39 in Rome, Titus was the eldest son of Emperor Vespasian, who founded the Flavian dynasty. Titus had a distinguished military upbringing, accompanying his father on various military campaigns. His skills as a military leader were evident when he served in the Roman legions and gained a reputation for his bravery and strategic acumen. One of the defining moments of Titus' reign was the catastrophic eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79, which buried the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum under layers of volcanic ash. Despite the scale of the disaster, Titus displayed empathy and took charge of relief efforts, providing aid to the survivors. During his reign, Titus inaugurated the magnificent Flavian Amphitheater, now famously known as the Colosseum, in AD 80. The grand opening was marked by a lavish 100-day spectacle of gladiatorial contests, wild animal hunts, and various other entertainments. The celebrations showcased Titus' generosity and popularity among the Roman populace. Titus also played a significant role in the First Jewish-Roman War during his father's reign. After Vespasian's victory, Titus led the siege of Jerusalem in AD 70. The conquest resulted in the destruction of the Second Temple, a significant event in Jewish history, and the subsequent dispersal of Jewish communities. Tragically, Titus' reign came to an untimely end when he succumbed to a fever in AD 81, at the age of 41. His sudden death marked the beginning of a more contentious period in Roman history, as his younger brother, Domitian, ascended to the throne. Titus' legacy endures as one of Rome's "good emperors," celebrated for his capable leadership, compassion, and ability to maintain relative stability during his short but impactful rule. The Colosseum, a testament to his grandeur, remains an enduring symbol of his reign and a beloved icon of ancient Roman architecture.



231 Titus AD 79-81. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,33 g IMP TITVS CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M, laureate head right / TR P VIII IMP XV COS VII P P, trophy; below, captive kneeling right. Very Fine RIC II 30.

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232 Domitian AD 81-96. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,33 g CAESAR AVG F DOMITIANVS COS VI, laureate head right / PRINCEPS IVVENTVTIS, Salus standing right, resting upon column to right, holding and feeding serpent from patera. Very Fine RIC II 1084 (Vespasian). Domitian, full name Titus Flavius Caesar Domitianus Augustus, was a Roman Emperor who ruled from AD 81 to 96. Born on October 24, AD 51, he was the second son of the Roman Emperor Vespasian and younger brother to Titus. Domitian's family, known as the Flavian dynasty, played a crucial role in stabilizing the Roman Empire after the turmoil of the Year of the Four Emperors in AD 69. Upon the death of his brother Titus in AD 81, Domitian ascended to the throne as the Roman Emperor. His rule was marked by both accomplishments and controversies. Domitian pursued ambitious building projects, including the restoration of the Roman Forum and the construction of the Domus Flavia on the Palatine Hill. He also strengthened the Roman economy, initiated agricultural reforms, and invested in public infrastructure. However, Domitian's autocratic style of rule and his conflicts with the Senate led to tensions and a series of purges. He faced opposition due to perceived tyranny, censorship, and a repressive regime. Despite his accomplishments, his authoritarian governance style made him unpopular among certain factions. In AD 96, Domitian was assassinated in a conspiracy involving members of his own court, leading to the brief Year of the Four Emperors. His successor, Nerva, became the next Roman Emperor, initiating the Nervan-Antonian Dynasty.

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233 Domitian AD 81-96. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,18 g IMP CAES DOMIT AVG GERM P M TR P XIII, laureate head right / IMP XXII COS XVI CENS P P P, Minerva standing to left, holding thunderbolt and spear; shield at side. Very Fine RIC II.1 763; BMCRE 219; RSC 283

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234 Domitian AD 81-96. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,28 g IMP CAES DOMIT AVG GERM P M TRP XII, laureate head right / IMP XXII COS XVI CENS P P P, Minerva standing left on galley, wearing aegis, and brandishing spear and shield; owl at feet. Very Fine RIC II 740; RSC 281.

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235 Domitian AD 81-96. Rome Dupondius Æ 28 mm, 13,40 g IMP CAES DOMIT AVG GERM COS XI CENS POT PP, laureate bust right, wearing aegis / ANNONA AVG, Annona seated right holding bag of grain ears also held by small figured standing left; stern of ship in background. Nearly Very Fine RIC 290.

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236 Domitian AD 81-96. Rome As Æ 30 mm, 10,49 g IMP CAES DOMIT AVG GERM COS XIII CENS PER P P, laureate head to right / VIRTUTI AVGVSTI; Virtus standing to right, foot on helmet, holding spear and parazonium; S-C across fields. Very Fine, smoothed RIC 550.

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237 Domitian AD 81-96. Rome Quadrans Æ 17 mm, 2,09 g Rhinoceros standing to left / IMP DOMIT AVG GERM around SC. Very Fine RIC II.2 250; C. 676; BMCRE 498.

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238 Nerva AD 96-98. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,37 g IMP NERVA CAES AVG P M TR POT II, laureate head right / COS III PATER PATRIAE, priestly emblems: simpulum, aspergillum, ewer, and lituus. Very Fine RIC II 34; BMCRE 56; RSC 51. Nerva, born Marcus Cocceius Nerva in AD 30, was a Roman Emperor who held the throne from AD 96 to 98. His rise to power came after the assassination of the previous emperor, Domitian, whose oppressive rule had made him deeply unpopular. The Senate selected Nerva as a compromise candidate, recognizing his reputation for moderation and diplomatic skills. During his relatively short reign, Nerva implemented several important reforms aimed at improving the well-being of the Roman Empire. He showed clemency by pardoning political exiles and taking measures to improve the treatment of slaves. Nerva also sought to address the needs of the urban poor, offering some relief to the marginalized members of society. One of the most significant acts during Nerva's rule was his adoption of Trajan as his successor in AD 97. Since Nerva lacked a biological heir, adopting Trajan was a strategic move to secure a smooth and stable transfer of power after his own death. Trajan, a highly capable and respected general, proved to be an exceptional ruler, and his reign would become one of the most prosperous and successful in Roman history. Nerva passed away from natural causes in AD 98, at the age of 68. While his reign was relatively brief, it marked a crucial turning point in Roman history. The "Five Good Emperors" era, which began with Nerva, brought stability and benevolent governance to the empire. These rulers prioritized the welfare of their subjects and focused on efficient administration, contributing to a period of prosperity and relative peace within the Roman Empire.

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239 Nerva AD 96-98. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,11 g IMP NERVA CAES AVG P M TR POT II, laureate head right / COS III PATER PATRIAE, ladle, sprinkler, jug and lituus. Very Fine RIC 34; RSC 51.

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240 Nerva AD 96-98. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 3,13 g IMP NERVA CAES AVG P M TR P COS II P P, laureate head right / FORTVNA AVGVST, Fortuna standing left, holding rudder and cornucopia. Nearly Very Fine RIC 4.

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241 Trajan AD 98-117. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,40 g IMP CAES NERVA TRAIAN AVG GERM, laureate bust right, with slight drapery / P M TR P C[OS IIII P] P, Victory standing facing left, holding wreath and palm frond. Very Fine Woytek 128b; RIC 58. Trajan, full name Caesar Nerva Trajanus Augustus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 98 to 117. He was born in AD 53 in Italica, a Roman colony in modern-day Spain. Trajan came from a non-aristocratic family but rose through the military ranks to become emperor. He was known for his military conquests, including the successful campaigns against Dacia (modern Romania) and Parthia (modern Iran and Iraq). Under his rule, the Roman Empire reached its greatest territorial extent. Trajan was also known for his public works projects, including the construction of Trajan's Forum and Trajan's Column in Rome. He died in AD 117, and was succeeded by Hadrian. Trajan is often considered one of the "Five Good Emperors" of Rome.

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242 Trajan AD 98-117. Rome Sestertius Æ 32 mm, 22,19 g IMP CAES NERVA TRAIAN AVG GERM P M, laureate head of Trajan to right / TR [POT COS] V P P / S C, Pax seated left, holding olive branch in her right hand and sceptre in her left. Fine RIC -.

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243 Trajan AD 98-117. Rome Dupondius Æ 27 mm, 12,91 g [IMP CAES TRAIANO] OPTIMO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS VI P P, radiate and draped bust right / SENATVS [POPVL]VSQVE ROMANVS, S - C across field, Felicitas standing left, holding caduceus in right hand and cornucopia in left. Very Fine RIC 674.

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244 Trajan AD 98-117. Rome As Æ 29 mm, 12,01 g IMP CAES NERVA TRAIAN AVG GERM P M, laureate bust of Trajan to right, slight drapery on far shoulder / TR POT COS IIII P P / S C, Victory advancing left, holding shield inscribed SP/QR in two lines. Very Fine BMC 753; Cohen 640; RIC 434; Woytek 113b.



245 Hadrian AD 117-138. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,27 g IMP CAESAR TRAIAN HADRIANVS AVG, laureate head right / P M TR P COS III, Pax seated left, holding Victory on globe in her right hand and olive branch in her left. Very Fine BMC 198; Cohen 1147; RIC 591. Hadrian was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 117 to 138. He's often regarded as one of the "Five Good Emperors" of Rome due to his effective rule and significant contributions. During his reign, Hadrian focused on strengthening the Roman Empire. He improved its stability and security by reinforcing its borders and implementing legal reforms. His leadership brought about a period of consolidation and growth. Hadrian was also a notable patron of architecture. He is famous for overseeing the construction of Hadrian's Wall in northern Britannia, a massive defensive structure that marked the empire's northern limit. Another architectural marvel he's associated with is the Pantheon in Rome, a remarkable building that showcases his commitment to artistic excellence. One of his most impressive achievements was Hadrian's Villa, an expansive complex near Rome that showcased his architectural vision. This villa was a blend of stunning palaces, lush gardens, and diverse architectural styles that reflected the empire's multicultural influence. Hadrian had a curious and explorative nature. He embarked on extensive travels across the empire, not only for administrative purposes but also to learn about different cultures. This openness to diverse influences enriched Roman society. His relationship with Antinous, a young Greek man, was another intriguing aspect of his life. After Antinous's untimely death, Hadrian immortalized him through monuments and statues, showcasing his emotional depth. In addition to his architectural and cultural interests, Hadrian introduced legal reforms to ensure fairness and uniformity in the empire's legal practices. His progressive policies aimed to create a just society. Hadrian's legacy lived on through his adoption of Antoninus Pius as his successor, ensuring a seamless transition of power and the continuation of his policies. His reign left an indelible mark on Roman history, symbolizing a period of stability, artistic achievement, and a thirst for understanding the world.



246 Hadrian AD 117-138. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 3,06 g [H]ADRIANVS AVGVSTVS, laureate bust right, with slight drapery / COS III, Star within crescent; pellet below. Very Fine RIC² 865.

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247 Hadrian AD 117-138. "Travel Series" issue. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,57 g HADRIANVS AVG COS III P P, laureate head right / AFRICA, Africa, wearing elephant skin headdress and holding scorpion and cornucopia, reclining left on rock; basket of grain ears to left. Very Fine RIC II 1494.

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248 Hadrian AD 117-138. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,46 g [IMP] CAESAR TRAIAN HADRIANVS AVG, laureate bust right, slight drapery on left shoulder / P M TR P COS II, Aeternitas standing left, holding heads of Sol and Luna; AET - AVG across fields. Very Fine RIC 38.

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249 Hadrian AD 117-138. Struck ca. 126-127 AD. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 2,91 g HADRIANVS AVGVSTVS, laureate head right, with slight drapery on left shoulder / COS III, Victory standing front, head right, crowning herself with her right hand and holding long palm frond in her left. Very Fine RIC II 848; Cohen 358; BMC 422.

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250 Hadrian AD 117-138. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,36 g HADRIANVS AVG COS III P P, bare head right / MONETA AVG, Moneta standing left, holding scales and cornucopia. Nearly Extremely Fine RIC II 2224.

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251 Hadrian AD 117-138. Struck ca. 119-120 AD. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,11 g IMP CAESAR TRAIAN [HADRIAN]VS AVG, laureate bust right, slight drapery on left shoulder / P M TR P COS III, Pietas, veiled, standing facing, head to left, raising both hands. Good Very Fine RIC II.3 229; BMCRE 201-3; RSC 1115.

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252 Hadrian AD 117-138. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 2,87 g HADRIANVS AVGVSTVS, laureate head right, with slight drapery on left shoulder / COS III, Pudicitia, veiled, standing left, drawing veil. Very Fine BMC 407; Cohen 392; RIC II 846.

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253 Hadrian AD 117-138. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 2,78 g IMP CAESAR TRAIAN HADRIANVS AVG, laureate bust right, with slight drapery / P M TR P COS III, Mars advancing right, holding spear and trophy. Good Very Fine RIC² 320.

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254 Hadrian AD 117-138. Rome Quinarius AR 14 mm, 1,56 g IMP CAESAR TRAIAN HADRIANVS AVG, laureate bust right, with slight drapery / P M [TR P C]O[S III], Victory advancing right, holding wreath and palm frond. Nearly Very Fine RIC II 103; RSC II 1127.

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255 Sabina. Augusta AD 128-137. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 3,21 g SABINA AVGVSTA, diademed and draped bust right, wearing stephane / CONCORDIA AVG, Concordia seated to left, holding patera and sceptre; cornucopia below seat. Good Very Fine BMCRE 932; RSC 24; RIC² 2548. Vibia Sabina, also known as Sabina Augusta, was a Roman empress who lived during the 2nd century AD. She was born in AD 86 in Rome to Matidia, the daughter of Emperor Trajan's sister. As a result, she was the great-niece of Emperor Trajan. In AD 100 Sabina married her second cousin, Hadrian, who would later become the Roman Emperor. The marriage was part of a strategic alliance to secure Hadrian's position as Trajan's successor and to ensure political stability within the empire. However, historical accounts suggest that their marriage was not a happy one. Hadrian was known for his many travels and military campaigns, often leaving Sabina behind in Rome. The couple had no children, further straining their relationship. As empress, Sabina was expected to fulfill her ceremonial and public duties, but she largely stayed out of the political spotlight. She focused on supporting the arts and culture, becoming a patroness of poets and philosophers. Sabina's life came to an end in AD 136. The exact circumstances of her death remain uncertain. Some historians speculate that she might have died of natural causes, while others suggest that her husband, Hadrian, may have been involved in her death.



256 Antoninus Pius AD 138-161. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 3,38 g IMP T AEL CAES HADR ANTONINVS, laureate head right / AVG PIVS P M TR P COS DES II, Diana standing right, holding arrow and bow. Very Fine RSC 68a; RIC 7a; BMCRE IV 9. Antoninus Pius, also known as Titus Aurelius Fulvus Boionius Arrius Antoninus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 138 to 161. He was known for his peaceful and benevolent reign, earning him the title of "Pius," which means "dutiful" or "faithful." Antoninus Pius focused on administrative efficiency and maintaining the stability of the Roman Empire. He was praised for his generosity and philanthropy, as he provided financial assistance to orphaned children and alleviated the suffering of those affected by natural disasters. His reign is often regarded as a time of prosperity and tranquility in the Roman Empire.

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257 Antoninus Pius AD 138-161. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 2,91 g ANTONINVS AVG PIVS P P, laureate head right / COS IIII, clasped right hands holding caduceus between two grain ears. Good Very Fine RIC III 136; RSC 344.

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258 Antoninus Pius AD 138-161. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,05 g IMP CAES T AEL HADR ANTONINVS AVG PIVS P P, laureate head right / TR POT XV COS IIII, Pietas standing front, head to right, holding hind by the fore-legs with her right hand and plate with fruits in her left; to right, altar; PIETAS in exergue. Extremely Fine BMC 754; Cohen 617; RIC 217.

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259 Antoninus Pius AD 138-161. Rome Sestertius Æ 31 mm, 24,01 g [IM]P CAES T AEL HADR ANTONINVS AVG P[IVS P P], laureate head right / TR POT X[IIII] COS IIII], S C, ANNONA AVG, Annona seated left, holding grain-ears and cornucopia, modius at feet. Nearly Very Fine RIC III 871.

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260 Antoninus Pius AD 138-161. Rome Sestertius Æ 35 mm, 26,93 g ANTONINVS AVG PIVS P P TR P COS III, laureate head to right / GENIO SENATVS, the Genius of the Senate standing to left, holding branch and short sceptre; S-C across fields. Very Fine RIC III 605.

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261 Marcus Aurelius, as Caesar AD 139-161. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 3,31 g AVRELIVS CAE-SAR AVG PII F [COS], bare head right / PIETAS AVG, knife, sprinkler, ewer, lituus and simpulum. Very Fine Cohen 451; BMC (A. Pius) 277; RIC (A. Pius) 424a. Marcus Aurelius Antoninus was a Roman emperor and Stoic philosopher, was a pivotal figure of the Nerva-Antonine dynasty, renowned as the Five Good Emperors. His reign, from AD 161 to AD 180, marked the pinnacle of the Pax Romana, an era of relative stability for the Roman Empire. Co-ruling with Lucius Verus, he confronted challenges like conflicts with the Parthian Empire and Germanic tribes. Born into privilege, Marcus was educated by prominent tutors and married Faustina. His reign witnessed the devastating Antonine Plague, impacting the empire's population. His "Meditations," a collection of philosophical writings, remains influential and illuminates his commitment to Stoic ideals. Unlike his predecessors, Marcus refrained from adopting an heir. His descendants included Lucilla, who married Lucius, and Commodus, whose controversial succession sparked debates. The Column and Equestrian Statue of Marcus Aurelius, both located in Rome, commemorate his military triumphs. Beyond his imperial role, Marcus's legacy as a philosopher-king endures. His insights into Stoicism continue to inspire modern thinkers, admired by writers, philosophers, and leaders over the centuries. In navigating the complexities of governance, philosophy, and legacy, Marcus Aurelius left an indelible mark on Roman history and the broader understanding of leadership and ethical principles.

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262 Marcus Aurelius, as Caesar AD 139-161. Rome As Æ 28 mm, 9,44 g AVRELIVS CAE-SAR AVG PII F COS, bare head right / PIETAS AVG, sacrificial implements: knife, sprinkler, jug, lituus and simpulum, S C in exergue. Very Fine, smoothed RIC 1240a [Pius]. Marcus Aurelius Antoninus was a Roman emperor and Stoic philosopher, was a pivotal figure of the Nerva-Antonine dynasty, renowned as the Five Good Emperors. His reign, from AD 161 to 180 AD, marked the pinnacle of the Pax Romana, an era of relative stability for the Roman Empire. Co-ruling with Lucius Verus, he confronted challenges like conflicts with the Parthian Empire and Germanic tribes. Born into privilege, Marcus was educated by prominent tutors and married Faustina. His reign witnessed the devastating Antonine Plague, impacting the empire's population. His "Meditations," a collection of philosophical writings, remains influential and illuminates his commitment to Stoic ideals. Unlike his predecessors, Marcus refrained from adopting an heir. His descendants included Lucilla, who married Lucius, and Commodus, whose controversial succession sparked debates. The Column and Equestrian Statue of Marcus Aurelius, both located in Rome, commemorate his military triumphs. Beyond his imperial role, Marcus's legacy as a philosopher-king endures. His insights into Stoicism continue to inspire modern thinkers, admired by writers, philosophers, and leaders over the centuries. In navigating the complexities of governance, philosophy, and legacy, Marcus Aurelius left an indelible mark on Roman history and the broader understanding of leadership and ethical principles.



263 Diva Faustina I AD 140-141. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 3,41 g DIVA FAVSTINA, draped bust right / AETERNITAS, Providentia standing to left, holding globe and veil blown out around her head. Very Fine RIC III 351 (Pius); BMCRE 373 (Pius); RSC 32. Diva Faustina, also known as Faustina the Elder or Faustina the Elder Augusta, was a Roman empress and the wife of the Roman Emperor Antoninus Pius. She was born in AD 100, and she married Antoninus Pius before he became emperor. Her full name was Annia Galeria Faustina. Diva Faustina is remembered as a virtuous and influential empress. She was well-regarded and beloved by the Roman people during her husband's long and prosperous reign, which lasted from AD 138 to 161 AD. After her death on October AD 140, she was deified by the Senate, and she became known as "Diva Faustina" ("Diva" meaning "divine" or "deified"). Her deification was a common practice in Roman imperial cults, and it honored her as a revered figure after her passing. Diva Faustina's memory and legacy were also celebrated through various monuments, inscriptions, and coins during and after her lifetime. Many of these representations depicted her as a paragon of virtue and motherhood.

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264 Diva Faustina I AD 140-141. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 2,57 g DIVA FAVSTINA, draped bust right / CONSECRATIO, Peacock standing right, head left. Very Fine RIC 384a (Antoninus Pius).

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265 Diva Faustina I AD 140-141. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,12 g DIVA FAVSTINA, draped bust right / CONSECRATIO, Peacock standing right, head left. Very Fine RIC 384a (Antoninus Pius).

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266 Divus Antoninus Pius AD 161. Struck under Marcus Aurelius. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,32 g DIVVS ANTONINVS, bare head right / DIVO PIO, altar. Very Fine RIC 441 (Aurelius).

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267 Divus Antoninus Pius AD 161. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,24 g DIVVS ANTONINVS, bare head right / CONSECRATIO Pyre in four tiers, decorated with garlands and statues, door in second tier, facing quadriga on top. Very Fine RIC III 436 [Aurelius]; RSC 164; BMCRE 57-59.

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268 Lucius Verus AD 161-169. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,44 g L VERVS AVG ARM PARTH MAX, laureate head right / TR P VII IMP IIII COS III, Aequitas standing to left, holding scales and cornucopia. Very Fine RIC III 576; BMCRE 447; RSC 297. Lucius Verus was a Roman emperor who co-ruled with Marcus Aurelius from AD 161 until his death in AD 169. He was born in AD 130 as son of Aelius Caesar and became after his fathers death the adoptive son of Antoninus Pius. With his adoptive brother Marcus Aurelius, they ruled the Roman Empire, with both holding the title of Augustus. During their joint reign, Lucius Verus and Marcus Aurelius faced several military challenges, including the Parthian War. Lucius Verus took charge of the Eastern front and led Roman legions in campaigns against the Parthian Empire. However, Lucius Verus died in AD 169 , possibly due to a disease. After his death, Marcus Aurelius continued as the sole emperor until his own passing in AD 180.

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269 Lucius Verus AD 161-169. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,22 g L VERVS AVG ARM PARTH MAX, laureate head right / VICT AVG TR P VI COS II, Victory standing to right, towered, holding open diadem. Very Fine RIC III 553; BMCRE 425.

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270 Lucius Verus AD 161-169. Rome Sestertius Æ 36 mm, 24,21 g IMP CAES L AVREL VERVS AVG, bare-headed, draped and cuirassed bust to right / PROV DEOR TR P COS II, Providentia standing facing, head to left, holding globe and cornucopiae; S-C across fields. Very Fine,smoothed RIC III 1304.

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271 Marcus Aurelius AD 161-180. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 3,36 g M ANTONINVS AVG GERM SARM, laureate head right / TR P XXXI IMP VIII COS III P P, Victory advancing left, holding wreath and palm. Very Fine RIC 378.

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272 Marcus Aurelius AD 161-180. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 2,72 g IMP M ANTONINVS AVG, bare head right / PROV DEOR TR P XVII COS III, Providentia standing left, holding globe and cornucopiae. Very Fine RIC 70; RSC 526.

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273 Marcus Aurelius AD 161-180. Rome Sestertius Æ 33 mm, 24,74 g M AVREL ANTONINVS [AVG ARMENIACVS P M], laureate head of Marcus Aurelius to right / [TR POT X]IX IMP III COS III / S - C, Providentia standing front, head to left, holding baton in her right hand and long scepter in her left; at her feet, globe. Very Fine RIC 906; BMC 1248.

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274 Marcus Aurelius AD 161-180. Rome As Æ 26 mm, 12,01 g M AVRELIVS CAESAR AVG PII F, bare head right / TR POT III COS II], Clementia standing left, holding patera and raising skirt; S-[C] across fields, [C]LEM in exergue. Very Fine RIC III 1290b var.(bust type). Not published in the standard references for Marcus Aurelius

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275 Lucilla AD 164-169. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 2,91 g LVCILLAE AVG ANTONINI AVG F, draped bust right / PIE[T]IAS, Pietas standing left, holding box and raising hand over lighted and garlanded altar to left. Very Fine, scratches on both sides RIC 775 (Aurelius); BMC 317; Cohen 50. Lucilla Augusta, also known as Annia Aurelia Galeria Lucilla, was a prominent figure in Roman history. She was the daughter of Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius and his wife Faustina the Younger. Lucilla was born in AD 148 and belonged to the influential Antonine dynasty. In AD 164, Lucilla married Lucius Verus, who was co-emperor with her father Marcus Aurelius. However, her marriage to Verus was not a happy one, although they three children. After the death of her father Marcus Aurelius in AD 180 AD, her brother Commodus became the sole emperor. However, Lucilla and Commodus had a strained relationship, and she was eventually involved in a plot to assassinate him. The conspiracy was discovered, and Lucilla was exiled to the island of Capri, where she was executed in AD 182.



276 Commodus AD 177-192. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 2,82 g M COMMODVS ANTONINVS AVG, laureate head right / TR P VIII IMP V COS IIII PP, Roma seated left on shield, holding Victory and spear. Very Fine RSC 854 b. Commodus, also known as Lucius Aurelius Commodus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 177 to 192. He was the son of Emperor Marcus Aurelius and became co-emperor with his father in AD 177 before succeeding him as the sole ruler upon Marcus Aurelius' death in AD 180. Commodus' reign was marked by extravagance, mismanagement, and authoritarian rule. He is famously depicted as a cruel and erratic ruler in historical accounts, including the film "Gladiator," where he is portrayed as a power-hungry and unstable emperor. During his rule, Commodus indulged in lavish spending, engaged in gladiatorial combats, and saw himself as a god-like figure. His autocratic and erratic behavior led to unrest and dissatisfaction among the Roman people, and his reign ultimately ended with assassination in AD 192. Commodus' tumultuous rule remains a significant and intriguing part of Roman history, and his actions had lasting consequences for the Roman Empire.

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277 Commodus AD 177-192. Rome Sestertius Æ 30 mm, 21,87 g L AVREL COMMODVS AVG TR P IIII, laureate head right / IOVI VICTORI IMP II[I COS II P P], Jupiter seated left, holding Victory and sceptre. Nearly Very Fine,smoothed RIC III 1612 (Aurelius).

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278 Commodus AD 177-192. Rome Sestertius Æ 31 mm, 22,83 g M COMMODVS ANT P FELIX AVG BRIT, laureate head right / MINER VICT P M TR P XIII IMP VIII COS V P P/ S-C, Minerva standing l., holding Victory and reversed spear; shield set on ground to l.; trophy to r. Very Fine RIC 528.

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279 Clodius Albinus AD 193-197. Rome Denarius AR 17 mm, 3,03 g D CLOD SEPT ALBIN C[AES], bare head right / ROMAE AE[TERN]AE, Roma seated left on shield, holding palladium in her right hand and a scepter in her left. Very Fine BMC 45; Cohen 61; RIC 11b. Clodius Albinus, also known as Decimus Clodius Septimius Albinus, was a Roman general and politician in the 2nd century AD. Born around 150 AD, he became a prominent military commander under Emperor Septimius Severus. In 193 AD, he was appointed governor of Britain, where he successfully defended the province against external threats. During the "Year of the Five Emperors" in 193 AD, he declared himself emperor in opposition to Septimius Severus, leading to a civil war. However, Albinus was defeated and killed in the Battle of Lugdunum in 197 AD. His defeat secured Septimius Severus as the sole ruler of the Roman Empire. Although he failed to become emperor, Albinus was praised for his military skills and administrative abilities. His rebellion was a significant event during a turbulent period of Roman history.

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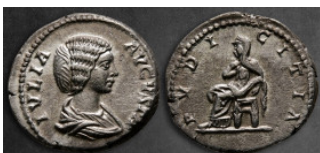
280 Julia Domna. Augusta AD 193-217. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,67 g IVLIA AVGVSTA, draped bust right / CERERI FRVGIF, Ceres seated to left, holding corn ears and torch. Good Very Fine RIC IV 546 (Severus); BMCRE 10 (Severus); RSC 14.

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281 Julia Domna. Augusta AD 193-217. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 3,25 g IVLIA AVGVSTA, draped bust right / CERERI FRVGIF, Ceres seated to left, holding corn ears and torch. Very Fine RIC IV 546 (Severus); BMCRE 10 (Severus); RSC 14.

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282 Julia Domna. Augusta AD 193-217. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,26 g IVLIA AVGVSTA, draped bust right / PVDICITIA, Pudicitia seated to left, resting right hand on breast and left arm on chair. Very Fine BMC 74; Cohen 168; RIC 576.

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283 Julia Domna. Augusta AD 193-217. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,41 g IVLIA AVGVSTA, draped bust right / MATER DEVM, Cybele seated to left on throne between two lions, holding branch and sceptre, arm resting on drum. Very Fine RIC IV 564 (Severus); BMCRE 51 note (Septimius and Caracalla); RSC 123.

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284 Julia Domna. Augusta AD 193-217. Rome Denarius AR 30 mm, 3,34 g PLAVTILLA AVGVSTA, draped bust right / VENVS VICTRIX, Venus standing front, head to left, holding apple in her right hand and palm frond in her left, resting her left elbow on shield set on ground; to left, cupid standing left, holding uncertain object in his hands. Very Fine BMC 429; Cohen 25; RIC 369.

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285 Pescennius Niger AD 193-194. Antioch Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,45 g IMP CAES C PESC NIGER IVST A, laureate head right / FORTVN[AE] REDV, Fortuna standing left, holding rudder and cornucopia. Very Fine RIC 25. Pescennius Niger, a Roman general turned emperor, emerged as a central figure in the tumultuous Year of the Five Emperors in AD 193-194. His ascent to power was rooted in the volatile power vacuum left by the assassination of Emperor Pertinax. Proclaimed emperor by his troops in the eastern province of Syria, Niger contested the imperial throne with Septimius Severus, another claimant, setting the stage for a bitter and protracted civil war. The conflict between Niger and Severus reverberated across the Roman Empire, with rival legions and provinces aligning themselves with the contenders. Battles raged from the Balkans to the Levant, leaving a trail of instability in their wake. In a fateful confrontation near Issus in AD 194, Severus emerged victorious, effectively ending Niger's bid for power. Following his defeat, Pescennius Niger met a grim fate in Antioch. He was captured, executed, and his severed head was sent to Rome as a stark reminder of the price of failed ambition.

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286 Septimius Severus AD 193-211. Laodicea ad Mare Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,63 g L SEPT SEV AVG IMP XI PART MAX, laureate head right / COS II P P, Victory advancing left, holding wreath in right hand and palm in left. Good Very Fine BMC 655-6; Cohen 96; RIC 503a.

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287 Septimius Severus AD 193-211. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,48 g SEVERVS AVG PART MAX, laureate head right / RESTITVTOR VRBIS, emperor standing to left, sacrificing out of patera over tripod and holding spear. Good Very Fine RIC IV 167a; BMCRE 203; RSC 599.

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288 Caracalla AD 198-217. Struck circa 201-213 AD. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 2,98 g ANTONINVS PIVS AVG BRIT, laureate head right / MARTI PACATORI, Mars standing facing, head left, holding spear, shield and branch. Extremely Fine RIC IV 222; BMCRE 81; RSC 149. Caracalla, also known as Marcus Aurelius Severus Antoninus Augustus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 198 to 217. He became co-emperor with his brother, Geta, in AD 198, but their relationship soured, leading Caracalla to have Geta assassinated in AD 211. As emperor, Caracalla was known for his brutality and lavish spending. In AD 212, he issued the Antonine Constitution, granting Roman citizenship to all free inhabitants of the empire, but his rule was marked by oppressive taxation. Caracalla was a military-focused emperor, leading campaigns in various frontier regions. Although he achieved some military successes, his reign was marred by ongoing conflicts. In AD 217, Caracalla was assassinated during a campaign in the eastern provinces. He left a legacy of tyranny and violence, earning him a notorious reputation in Roman history.

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289 Caracalla AD 198-217. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,25 g ANTONINVS PIVS AVG BRIT, laureate head right / PONTIF TR P XIII COS III, Concordia seated to left, holding patera and double cornucopia. Good Very Fine RIC IV 116a; BMCRE 29; RSC 484. The "Thermae of Caracalla," also known as the Baths of Caracalla, was a massive public bathing complex built in ancient Rome during the reign of Emperor Caracalla. It was one of the largest and most impressive bathhouses of its time, covering an area of approximately 33 acres (13 hectares). Construction of the Baths of Caracalla began around AD 212 and was completed in AD 217, shortly after Caracalla's death. The bath complex was primarily intended for public use and was open to both Roman citizens and slaves. The baths offered various facilities, including hot and cold rooms, exercise areas, swimming pools, gardens, and other amenities for relaxation and socializing. The massive structure was adorned with lavish decorations, marble statues, and intricate mosaics, showcasing the wealth and grandeur of the Roman Empire. The Baths of Caracalla remained in use for several centuries, but like many other ancient structures, they eventually fell into disrepair and were largely abandoned by the 6th century AD. Today, the ruins of the Thermae of Caracalla still stand in Rome as a testament to the architectural and engineering prowess of ancient Rome. The site is open to visitors and is one of the most well-preserved ancient Roman bath complexes in the world, offering a glimpse into the opulence and sophistication of ancient Roman life.

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290 Caracalla AD 198-217. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,27 g ANTONINVS PIVS AVG GERM, laureate head right / P M TR P XX COS IIII P P, Jupiter seated left on throne, holding patera and sceptre. Extremely Fine RIC 287a.

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291 Caracalla AD 198-217. Struck ca. 210-213 AD. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 3,13 g ANTONINVS PIVS AVG BRIT, laureate head right / MARTI PROPVGNATORI, Mars running left, holding spear and trophy Very Fine RIC IV 223; BMCRE 87; RSC 150.

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292 Caracalla AD 198-217. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,45 g ANTONINVS PIVS AVG GERM, laureate head right / P M TR P XVII COS IIII P P, Apollo seated left, holding branch and lyre set on tripod. Good Very Fine RIC 238a.

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293 Caracalla AD 198-217. Rome Antoninianus AR 24 mm, 4,92 g ANTONINVS PIVS AVG GERM, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / P M TR P XVIII COS IIII P P, Pluto seated left on throne, extending hand and holding sceptre; to left, Cerberus seated left, turning his three heads right. Very Fine RIC 261d.

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294 Caracalla AD 198-217. Rome Sestertius Æ 33 mm, 24,08 g M AVREL ANTONINVS PIVS AVG BRIT, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust of Caracalla to right / P M TR P XVI COS IIII P P / S - C, Libertas standing front, head to left, holding pileus in her right hand and scepter in her left. Very Fine,smoothed RIC 498a; BMC 246.

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295 Geta, as Caesar AD 198-209. Struck circa 200-202 AD. Laodicea ad Mare Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,98 g P SEPT GETA CAES PONT, bare-headed, draped and cuirassed bust right / VICT AE[TE]RN, Victory flying left, holding open wreath in both hands over shield set on low base. Very Fine BMC 723; Cohen 206; RIC 101. Publius Septimius Geta, commonly known as Geta, was a Roman Emperor who experienced a brief and tumultuous reign during the 2nd century AD. Born in AD 189, he was the younger son of Emperor Septimius Severus and Julia Domna. In AD 198, Geta was raised to Caesar and he received the title of Augustus in 209. However, Geta's time as co-emperor was marred by fierce animosity and rivalry with his brother and also co-emperor Caracalla. Their father, Septimius Severus, tried to mediate between the two, but their mutual dislike persisted. After their fathers death, the situation escalated to a tragic climax in AD 211. During an intense argument, Caracalla ordered the assassination of his younger brother in the very presence of their mother, Julia Domna. Geta was ruthlessly killed, and his body was denied the customary funeral rites and honors. In the aftermath of Geta's death, Caracalla launched a campaign to erase his brother's memory and any reminders of his brief reign. He ordered a damnatio memoriae, which sought to obliterate Geta's name and image from public records and monuments. Many of Geta's supporters were also targeted and killed. As a result of Caracalla's ruthless actions, much of what is known about Geta comes from inscriptions and sources that managed to survive the attempt to erase his memory. Geta's tragic fate stands as a stark example of the power struggles and political intrigues that defined the Roman Empire during this era.

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296 Geta, as Caesar AD 198-209. Laodicea ad Mare Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,07 g P SEPTIMIVS GETA CAES, bare-headed and draped bust of Geta to right / MARTI V-ICTORI, Mars advancing right, holding trophy over right shoulder and spear in left hand. Very Fine RIC 103.

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297 Geta, as Caesar AD 198-209. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,68 g P SEPTIMIVS GETA CAES, bare-headed and draped bust right / PONTIF COS II, prince standing to left, holding globe and sceptre Good Very Fine RIC IV 61a; BMCRE 586; RSC 117.

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298 Geta, as Caesar AD 198-209. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,25 g P SEPT GETA CAES PONT, bareheaded and draped bust right / PRINC IVVENTVTIS, Geta standing left, holding baton and sceptre; trophy of arms to right. Good Very Fine RIC 18.

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299 Macrinus AD 217-218. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 3,57 g IMP C M OPEL SEV MACRINVS AVG, laureate and cuirassed bust right / IOVI CONSERVATORI, Jupiter standing left, holding thunderbolt and sceptre; small figure of emperor to left. Very Fine RIC IV 76; BMCRE 20; RSC 37. Macrinus, whose full name was Marcus Opellius Macrinus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 217 to 218. He came from a humble background and rose through the ranks of the Roman military to become an important figure in the empire. Before becoming emperor, Macrinus served as a praetorian prefect under Emperor Caracalla. In AD 217, after the assassination of Caracalla, Macrinus was proclaimed emperor by the Roman army. His rise to power was supported by the influential general and jurist Ulpian. Macrinus' reign was short and marked by challenges. One of his major actions was to negotiate peace with the Parthian Empire, which involved paying a significant ransom for the return of the Roman prisoners captured during Caracalla's failed campaign against the Parthians. However, Macrinus' rule faced internal opposition. He was not popular with the Roman Senate and the upper echelons of Roman society due to his non-aristocratic background. Additionally, his policies, including attempts to cut military spending and reduce the soldiers' donative, made him unpopular with the Roman army. In AD 218, a rebellion erupted among the legions in Syria, who proclaimed the 14-year-old cousin of Caracalla, Elagabalus (Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus), as emperor. Macrinus faced defeat in battle against the rebel forces, and he was ultimately overthrown. He was captured, and his supporters were executed. Macrinus' reign as emperor lasted only about one year, and he is often considered one of the "barracks emperors" during the tumultuous period known as the Crisis of the Third Century.



300 Macrinus AD 217-218. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 2,45 g IMP C M OPEL SEV MACRINVS AVG, laureate and cuirassed bust right / P M TR P II COS P P, Annona standing left, holding grain ears over modius and cornucopia. Very Fine RIC 26; Clay Issue 3; RSC 47a.

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301 Elagabal AD 218-222. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,05 g IMP ANTONINVS AVG, laureate, and draped bust right / FIDES MILITVM, Fides standing half-left, head right, holding grounded vexillum and transverse signum. Very Fine RIC 73; RSC 38a; RCV 7512. Elagabal, whose full name was Marcus Aurelius Antoninus Augustus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 218 to 222. He is also known as Elagabalus, after the Syrian sun god Elagabal, whom he venerated and promoted during his reign. Elagabalus became emperor at the age of 14 when he succeeded his cousin, Emperor Caracalla, who was assassinated. His rule was marked by controversy and scandal, as he pursued an unconventional and extravagant lifestyle. One of the most controversial aspects of Elagabalus' reign was his religious beliefs and practices. He introduced the worship of Elagabal, the sun god, as the chief deity in Rome and attempted to elevate Elagabal's cult above other traditional Roman gods. Elagabalus even married a Vestal Virgin, which was strictly forbidden in Roman religious traditions, causing outrage among the Roman elite. Elagabalus' behavior, including his disregard for Roman traditions and morals, and his promotion of Syrian culture and religion, led to widespread dissatisfaction among the Roman population and the Roman military. As a result, he faced numerous revolts and conspiracies during his short reign. In AD 222, Elagabalus was assassinated by his own guards, and his body was thrown into the Tiber River. His cousin, Alexander Severus, succeeded him as the next Roman emperor.

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302 Elagabal AD 218-222. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 3,01 g IMP ANTONINVS PIVS AVG, laureate and draped bust right' / P M TR P V COS IIII P P, emperor standing left, sacrificing out of patera over lit altar and holding club; star in left field. Good Very Fine RIC IV 53; BMCRE 268; RSC 213a.

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303 Elagabal AD 218-222. Struck ca. 221 AD. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 2,34 g IMP ANTONINVS PIVS AVG, laureate and draped bust right / P M TR P IIII COS III P P, Victory flying left, holding open wreath, small shield to left and right; star in right field. Good Very Fine RIC IV 45; BMCRE 253; RSC 195.

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304 Elagabal AD 218-222. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,13 g IMP ANTONINVS PIVS AVG, laureate and draped bust right / P M TR P V COS IIII P P, Elagabalus standing left, holding cypress branch and sacrificing with patera over lighted altar to left; star in left field. Nearly Extremely Fine RIC IV 52; BMCRE 268; RSC 213a.

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305 Julia Maesa. Augusta AD 218-224. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 2,79 g IVLIA MAESA AVG, draped bust right / LAETITIA PVBL, Laetitia standing left, holding wreath and rudder on globe. Very Fine RIC 261. Julia Maesa was a prominent Roman noblewoman and a member of the Severan dynasty. She was born in Emesa (modern-day Homs, Syria) around AD 170. Julia Maesa was the sister of Julia Domna, the wife of Emperor Septimius Severus. After her sister's marriage to Septimius Severus, Julia Maesa and her two daughters, Julia Soaemias and Julia Mamaea, became part of the imperial family. Julia Maesa played a significant role in Roman politics during the late 2nd and early 3rd centuries AD. She was known for her intelligence, political acumen, and ambition. After the death of her sister Julia Domna in AD 217 and the assassination of her nephew, Emperor Caracalla (son of Julia Domna), Julia Maesa took charge of her grandson, the young Emperor Elagabalus. During Elagabalus' reign, Julia Maesa effectively acted as the power behind the throne, making decisions and influencing policies. She was instrumental in securing her family's position and power within the Roman Empire. However, Elagabalus' reign was marked by scandal and controversy, and he was eventually assassinated in AD 222. After Elagabalus' death, Julia Maesa supported her other grandson, Alexander Severus, in ascending to the throne. Under his rule, Julia Maesa continued to wield considerable influence in Roman politics. Julia Maesa was a remarkable woman of her time, known for her political astuteness and her ability to maneuver within the complex world of Roman power politics. Her influence played a pivotal role in shaping the fortunes of her family and the Roman Empire during a critical period of its history.



306 Julia Soaemias. Augusta AD 218-222. Rome Denarius AR 19 mm, 3,19 g IVLIA SOAEMIAS AVG, draped bust right / VENVS CAELESTIS, Venus, diademed, standing left, holding apple and sceptre; star in right field. Good Very Fine RIC 241 (Elagabalus); BMC 49; Cohen 8. Julia Soaemias was a Roman empress and the mother of Emperor Elagabalus (also known as Marcus Aurelius Antoninus). She was born in AD 180 to Julia Maesa, who was the sister of the powerful Roman empress Julia Domna, wife of Emperor Septimius Severus. Julia Soaemias' rise to prominence came when her mother, Julia Maesa, orchestrated the ascension of her young son, Elagabalus, to the imperial throne in AD 218. At the time, the Roman Empire was going through a period of political instability and military crisis, and Julia Maesa saw an opportunity to gain influence by having her grandson, Elagabalus, become the emperor. Once Elagabalus was on the throne, Julia Soaemias was given the title of Augusta, making her an empress. However, her reign alongside her son was marked by scandal and controversy. Elagabalus was notorious for his extravagant lifestyle, religious practices, and debauchery, and Julia Soaemias was often accused of encouraging and supporting his excesses. The reign of Elagabalus and Julia Soaemias was short-lived and faced significant opposition from the Roman military and the Senate. In AD 222, after only four years in power, Elagabalus and Julia Soaemias were overthrown in a coup orchestrated by the Praetorian Guard. Both mother and son were killed, and their bodies were decapitated, stripped and dragged through Rome. Afterwards they were thrown into the Tiber River.



307 Julia Mamaea. Augusta AD 222-235. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 2,73 g IVLIA MAMAEA AVG, diademed and draped bust right / VESTA, Vesta standing to left, holding patera and transverse sceptre. Extremely Fine RIC IV 362 (Alexander); BMCRE 440 (Alexander); RSC 85. Julia Mamaea, also known as Julia Avita Mamaea, was a prominent Roman woman who lived during the AD 3rd century. She was born into the Severan dynasty and was the daughter of Julia Maesa, a powerful matriarch and sister-in-law of Emperor Septimius Severus. Julia Mamaea's most significant role came when her young son, Severus Alexander, became the Roman emperor in AD 222 at the age of 13. As the mother of the reigning emperor, she held significant influence over the imperial court and affairs of the state. During Severus Alexander's reign, Julia Mamaea acted as a de facto co-ruler, advising and guiding her son in matters of governance. She was known for her intelligence, wisdom, and moderation, which contributed to the relatively stable and peaceful rule of Severus Alexander. Julia Mamaea was interested in philosophy and intellectual pursuits, and she surrounded herself with scholars and advisors who shared her interests. She promoted the study of philosophy and literature, fostering an environment of learning within the imperial court. However, the reign of Severus Alexander faced challenges, including external threats from invading tribes and internal pressure from the Roman military. In AD 235, both Severus Alexander and Julia Mamaea were assassinated during a military rebellion led by Maximinus Thrax. Julia Mamaea's influence and contributions as the mother of an emperor left a lasting impact on the political landscape of the Roman Empire during a critical period of transition and turmoil. Her support for education and culture also contributed to the intellectual legacy of her son's reign.



308 Julia Mamaea. Augusta AD 222-235. Rome Sestertius Æ 32 mm, 20,43 g IVLIA MAMAEA AVGVSTA, diademed bust right / FELICITAS PVBLICA, Felicitas standing facing, head left, legs crossed, holding caduceus and leaning on column; S-C across fields. Good Very Fine RIC 676.

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309 Severus Alexander AD 222-235. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 3,44 g IMP C M AVR SEV ALEXAND AVG, laureate and draped bust right / P M TR P VII COS II P P, Mars advancing right holding spear and trophy. Very Fine RIC 73.

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310 Severus Alexander AD 222-235. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 2,77 g IMP ALEXAND PIVS AVG, laureate and draped bust right / SPES PVBLICA, Spes walking left, holding flower and raising skirt. Good Very Fine RIC 254; C. 543, 546.

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311 Severus Alexander AD 222-235. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 3,24 g IMP ALEXANDER PIVS AVG, laureate and draped bust right / SPES PVBLICA, Spes advancing left, holding flower and lifting fold of dress. Mint State RIC 254. Severus Alexander, whose full name was Marcus Aurelius Severus Alexander Augustus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 222 to 235. He was born in AD 208 in Phoenicia (modern-day Lebanon). Severus Alexander became emperor at the age of 13, following the assassination of Emperor Elagabalus, his cousin. During his reign, he was heavily influenced by his mother, Julia Mamaea, who acted as his regent and advisor. Severus Alexander was known for his moderation and attempts to promote a more harmonious and stable government. He tried to restore the authority of the Senate, reduced taxes, and showed clemency to his enemies. However, despite his good intentions, his reign faced various challenges. The Roman military was unhappy with his policies, and external threats from the Sassanian Empire in Persia and Germanic tribes put further strain on the empire. In AD 235, a rebellion broke out among the Roman troops led by Maximinus Thrax, a general who had gained popularity in the legions. Severus Alexander was unable to quell the rebellion, and he and his mother were assassinated by their own soldiers. With his death, the Severan dynasty came to an end.

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312 Severus Alexander AD 222-235. Rome Denarius AR 18 mm, 3,14 g IMP C M AVR SEV ALEXAND AVG, laureate and draped bust right / P M TR P III COS P P, Mars walking right, carrying spear and trophy. Nearly Extremely Fine RIC IV 44; Coh. 256; BMC 178.

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313 Severus Alexander AD 222-235. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 3,56 g IMP ALEXANDER PIVS AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / P M TR P XIII COS III P P, Sol standing facing, head left, raising hand and holding whip Nearly Extremely Fine RIC IV 123; BMCRE 950-2; RSC 448.

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314 Severus Alexander AD 222-235. Rome Denarius AR 21 mm, 3,08 g IMP ALEXANDER PIVS AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / MARS VLTOR, Mars advancing right, holding spear and shield. Extremely Fine RIC 246; BMCRE 837; RSC 161.

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315 Severus Alexander AD 222-235. Rome Sestertius Æ 31 mm, 21,72 g IMP ALEXANDER PIVS AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / P M TR [P XI]II COS [III P P], Sol, radiate, advancing left, raising right hand and holding whip; S-C across fields. Nearly Very Fine RIC 538.

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316 Maximinus I Thrax AD 235-238. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 2,44 g MAXIMINVS PIVS AVG GERM, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / VICTORIA GERM, Victoria standing to left, holding wreath and palm; captive seated to left at feet. Nearly Extremely Fine RIC IV 23; BMCRE 186; RSC 107. Maximinus I Thrax, also known as Maximinus Thrax, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 235 to 238. He was born in Thrace, which is in the modern-day Balkans region. Maximinus came from a humble background and had a military career, rising through the ranks to become a prominent general in the Roman army. In AD 235, he was declared emperor by his troops after they assassinated Emperor Alexander Severus during a military rebellion. As emperor, Maximinus faced several challenges, including dealing with internal dissent and external invasions. His rule was marked by strict discipline and harsh policies, which made him unpopular with the senatorial class and the urban population. Maximinus also faced military conflicts with the Sassanian Empire in the east and the Germanic tribes in the Rhine and Danube regions. Despite his military background, his campaigns did not yield significant successes. In AD 238, a series of revolts broke out across the Roman Empire due to dissatisfaction with Maximinus' rule. He was eventually assassinated by his own troops during one of these revolts in Aquileia. Maximinus Thrax is often remembered as one of the "Barracks Emperors," a term used for the military generals who rose to power during the turbulent period known as the Crisis of the Third Century.

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317 Maximinus I Thrax AD 235-238. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 3,29 g IMP MAXIMINVS PIVS AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust to right / PROVIDENTIA AVG, Providentia standing to left, holding wand over globe and cornucopia. Very Fine RIC IV 13; BMCRE 86; RSC 77a.

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318 Maximinus I Thrax AD 235-238. Rome Denarius AR 22 mm, 2,87 g IMP MAXIMINVS PIVS AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust to right / SALVS AVGVSTI, Salus seated to left, feeding out of patera snake coiled around altar. Extremely Fine RIC IV 14; BMCRE 21; RSC 85.

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319 Maximus, Caesar AD 236-238. Rome Sestertius Æ 31 mm, 21,83 g MAXIMVS CAES GERM, bareheaded and draped bust right / [PRI]NCIPI IVVENTVTIS, Maximus standing left, holding baton and spear; two signa to right; S-C across fields. Nearly Very Fine RIC 13; C. 14; BMCRE 213 (Maximinus). Maximus Caesar, originally known as Gaius Iulius Verus Maximus, was the son of Roman Emperor Maximinus Thrax and Caecilia Paulina. In AD 236, a year after his father took the throne, Maximus was appointed Caesar by the Senate, making him the heir and co-regent. Despite adopting the name Germanicus, later sources suggest that Maximus was disinterested in military matters, preferring a life of luxury. This could have caused resentment among the soldiers, who, in April AD 238 near Aquileia, seized the opportunity to overthrow both Maximus and his father. Some argue that Maximus was a cultured and amiable young man, capable of fostering better relations between his father and the Senate if given the chance. Both father and son's severed heads were displayed in Rome.

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320 Gordian III AD 238-244. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 3,26 g IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FEL AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust to right / SECVRITAS PVBLICA, Securitas seated to left, holding sceptre and propping head on hand. Good Very Fine RIC IV 130; RSC 340. Gordian III was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 238 to 244. He was born in AD 225 and became emperor at a young age after the death of his grandfather, Gordian I, and his father, Gordian II, during a revolt against the emperor Maximinus Thrax. As emperor, Gordian III was initially under the influence of his mother and advisors, but he eventually gained more independence as he matured. He was known for his handsome and youthful appearance, which earned him popularity among the Roman people. During his reign, Gordian III faced military conflicts, including campaigns against the Persians and Germanic tribes. His military commander, Timesitheus, played a crucial role in managing these campaigns and preserving the stability of the empire. However, in AD 244, Gordian III's reign came to an abrupt end when he died under suspicious circumstances while on a campaign in the East. His death marked the rise of Philip the Arab as the next Roman emperor.

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321 Gordian III AD 238-244. Rome Denarius AR 20 mm, 2,92 g IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FEL AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / DIANA LVCIFERA, Diana standing right, holding long torch in both hands. Very Fine Cohen 69; Michaux 269; RIC 127.

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322 Gordian III AD 238-244. Rome Antoninianus AR 22 mm, 3,77 g IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FEL AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust of Gordian right / P M TR P V COS II P P, Gordian standing right, holding spear and globe. Extremely Fine Cohen 266; Michaux 383; RIC 93.

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323 Gordian III AD 238-244. Rome Antoninianus AR 23 mm, 4,36 g IMP CAES M ANT GORDIANVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / CONCORDIA AVG, Concordia seated to left, holding patera and double cornucopia. Very Fine RIC IV 35; RSC 50.

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324 Gordian III AD 238-244. Rome Sestertius Æ 33 mm, 20,17 g IMP CAES M ANT GORDIANVS AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / FIDES MILITVM, Fides standing facing, head left, holding standard and sceptre, S-C across fields. Very Fine RIC 254a; Cohen 88.

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325 Otacilia Severa AD 244-249. Rome Antoninianus AR 22 mm, 4,38 g MARCIA OTACIL SEVERA AVG, diademed and draped bust right / PVDICITIA AVG, Pudicitia, veiled, seated left with right hand drawing veil and holding transverse sceptre in left hand. Extremely Fine RIC 123c. Otacilia Severa was a Roman empress during the 3rd century AD, married to Emperor Philip the Arab. Little is known about her life and influence during her husband's reign. As Augusta, she held a prestigious title in the imperial court. Their marriage was likely a political alliance, and they had two children together. Philip the Arab's reign was marked by challenges and conflicts, and he was assassinated in AD 249. After his death, historical records about Otacilia Severa become scarce, and details about her later life and death remain unknown.

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326 Philip I Arab AD 244-249. Struck AD 247. Rome Antoninianus AR 23 mm, 4,23 g IMP PHILIPPVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / AEQVITAS AVGG, Aequitas standing left, holding scales and cornucopia. Nearly Extremely Fine RIC 57; RSC 12. Philip I, also known as Philip the Arab or Marcus Julius Philippus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from 244 to 249 AD. He was born in present-day Syria, which was then part of the Roman Empire. Philip came from a prominent Arab family and rose to prominence in the Roman military. In 244 AD, he became emperor after he was proclaimed by the Roman army following the assassination of the previous emperor, Gordian III. Philip's rise to power marked a significant moment in Roman history as he was the first Roman emperor of Arab descent. During his reign, Philip faced numerous challenges, including external invasions and internal rebellions. One of the major threats came from the Sassanian Empire, a powerful Persian state, which invaded Roman territories in the east. Philip managed to negotiate a peace settlement with the Sassanians, but the conflict strained the Roman economy. Philip also had to deal with internal dissent, particularly from the Senate, which was suspicious of his background and authority. He attempted to strengthen his position by bestowing titles and honors upon his family members, but this move further alienated the Senate. In 249 AD, a rebellion broke out in Rome led by Gaius Messius Quintus Decius, a Roman general who challenged Philip's rule. Philip's own troops turned against him, and he was defeated and killed in battle. Decius proclaimed himself emperor and succeeded Philip as the Roman emperor. Philip's reign as emperor was relatively short and marked by a mixture of successes and challenges. He is remembered as the first Roman emperor of Arab origin and as one of the transitional figures in the turbulent period of Roman history known as the Crisis of the Third Century.



327 Philip I Arab AD 244-249. Rome Antoninianus AR 21 mm, 4,35 g IMP PHILIPPVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / VIRTVS AVGG, Philip I, holding sceptre, and Philip II, each on horses rearing right and raising hands in acclamation; € below. Very Fine RIC 10.

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328 Philip I Arab AD 244-249. Rome Antoninianus AR 23 mm, 4,06 g IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / ROMAE AETERNAE, Roma seated left on a shield, holding Victory in her outstretched right hand and a long scepter in her left. Good Very Fine Cohen 169; RIC 44b.

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329 Philip I Arab AD 244-249. Rome Antoninianus AR 22 mm, 4,06 g IMP PHILIPPVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / AETERNITAS AVGG, Elephant walking left, guided by mahout holding goad and wand. Very Fine RIC 58.

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330 Philip I Arab AD 244-249. Ludi Saeculares (Secular Games)/1000th Anniversary of Rome issue. Rome Antoninianus AR 22 mm, 3,02 g IMP PHILIPPVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / SAECLVARES AVGG, Lupa Romana (she-wolf) standing left, head lowered right, suckling the twins Romulus and Remus; II in exergue. Good Very Fine RIC 15. The Secular Games, originally known as Ludi Tarentini, were a Roman religious celebration lasting three days and nights to mark the end of a saeculum (either 100 or 110 years) and the beginning of the next. According to Roman mythology, the Games originated when a Sabine man, Valesius, prayed for his children's cure and was instructed to sacrifice to underworld deities. While the first celebrations are unclear, the Games were attested in 249 and 140s BC. Augustus revived them in 17 BC, connecting nocturnal sacrifices to Moerae, Ilythiae, and Terra Mater. Daytime sacrifices were introduced to Roman deities on the Capitoline and Palatine hills, followed by theatrical performances. Before the Games, heralds invited citizens to witness an unparalleled spectacle. Quindecimviri distributed torches and purifying substances. Augustus and Agrippa performed key roles, and sacrifices were made to Greek and Roman deities on specified dates. The Carmen Saeculare hymn, composed by Horace, was sung, adding complexity by addressing Greek deities under Latin names. The subsequent days featured Greek and Latin plays, chariot racing, and hunting displays. Later emperors, such as Claudius, celebrated the Games, using different calculation systems for their dates. Domitian and Septimius Severus continued the tradition in AD 88 and AD 204, respectively, maintaining the ritual's structure. However, as the Roman Empire declined, the Secular Games were neglected, with the last known celebration occurring in AD 204 under Philip I. The Christian Constantine I, by AD 314, marked the end of the Games, according to the pagan historian Zosimus.



331 Philip I Arab AD 244-249. Ludi Saeculares (Secular Games)/1000th Anniversary of Rome issue. Rome Antoninianus AR 23 mm, 3,49 g IMP PHILIPPVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / SAECVLARES AVGG, lion standing right; I in exergue. Very Fine RIC 12.

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332 Philip I Arab AD 244-249. Ludi Saeculares (Secular Games)/1000th Anniversary of Rome issue. Rome Antoninianus AR 22 mm, 3,92 g IMP PHILIPPVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / SAECVLARES AVGG, antelope walking left; UI in exergue. Extremely Fine RIC 21; RSC 189.

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333 Philip I Arab AD 244-249. Rome Antoninianus AR 23 mm, 4,13 g IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / AEQVITAS AVGG, Aequitas standing left, holding scales and cornucopia. Very Fine RIC 27b.

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334 Philip I Arab AD 244-249. Rome Sestertius Æ 28 mm, 14,37 g IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / FIDES EXERCITVS, four standards; SC in exergue. Very Fine RIC 171a.

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335 Philip I Arab AD 244-249. Rome Sestertius Æ 30 mm, 15,94 g IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / SAECVLARES AVGG / S C, Goat standing right. Very Fine RIC 161.

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336 Philip I Arab AD 244-249. Rome Sestertius Æ 32 mm, 21,73 g IMP M IVL PHILIPP[VS AVG], laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / SALVS AVG, Salus standing facing, head, right; feeding serpent on right arm from patera in left hand. Very Fine RIC IV 186a; Hunter 75; Cohen 211.

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337 Philip I Arab AD 244-249. Rome Sestertius Æ 28 mm, 15,18 g IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / AEQVITAS AVGG, Aequitas standing facing, head to left, holding scales and cornucopiae; S-C across fields. Very Fine RIC IV 166a; C. 10.

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338 Philip II AD 247-249. Antioch Antoninianus AR 21 mm, 3,41 g IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG, radiate, draped, cuirassed bust left / P M TR P IIII COS II P P, Philip, veiled, standing left by altar, holding patera and sceptre. Very Fine RIC 234 var (bust type); RSC 35 var (same). Philip II, also known as Philip the Younger, was the son and heir of the Roman Emperor Philip the Arab and Marcia Otacilia Severa. When his father ascended to the throne in AD 244, Philip II was merely seven years old and was appointed as caesar, a title signifying his role as the designated successor to the emperor. In AD 247, at the age of ten, Philip II became consul, an esteemed position in the Roman government. Later, his father elevated him to the rank of augustus, making him a co-ruler alongside Philip the Arab. During their joint reign, a significant event occurred—the celebration of the thousandth anniversary of the founding of Rome. To mark this milestone, grand games and spectacles were organized for the festivities. However, the reign of Philip II and his father faced challenges. According to ancient historians, both Philip the Arab and Philip II were killed in battle by Decius in AD 249. Modern historians, however, provide a different account, suggesting that when news of Philip the Arab's death reached Rome, Philip II was murdered by the Praetorian Guard at the tender age of twelve.

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339 Philip II AD 247-249. Rome Antoninianus AR 23 mm, 3,77 g IMP PHILIPPVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / LIBERALITAS AVGG III, Philip I and Philip II, holding short sceptre, seated left on curule chairs. Very Fine RIC 230.

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340 Philip II AD 247-249. Rome Sestertius Æ 31 mm, 20,03 g IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust to right / LIBERALITAS AVGG III, Philip II and Philip I seated left on curule chairs, extending hands, Philip I also holding sword, S C in exergue. Very Fine RIC IV, 3, 267a.

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341 Philip II AD 247-249. Ludi Saeculares (Secular Games)/1000th Anniversary of Rome issue. Rome Sestertius Æ 28 mm, 14,13 g IMP M IV[L PHILIPPV]S AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / SAEC[VLARES] AVGG, Goat or Elk advancing left; S C in exergue. Nearly Very Fine RIC 264a.

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342 Herennia Etruscilla AD 249-251. Rome Antoninianus AR 22 mm, 3,51 g HER ETRVSCILLA AVG, draped bust right, wearing stephane, set on crescent / PVDICITIA AVGG, Pudicitia seated left, drawing veil and holding sceptre. Good Very Fine RIC IV 59b (Decius); RSC 19. Herennia Etruscilla, also known as Herennia Cupressenia Etruscilla, was a Roman empress who lived during the 3rd century AD. She was the wife of the Roman Emperor Decius, who reigned from 249 to 251 AD. Not much is known about Herennia Etruscilla's life or background. She married Decius before he became emperor, and they had two sons, Herennius Etruscus and Hostilian, both of whom would later become co-emperors alongside their father.

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343 Trebonianus Gallus AD 251-253. Rome Antoninianus AR 22 mm, 3,43 g IMP C C VIB TREB GALLVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / PAX AETERNA, Pax standing left, holding sceptre and branch. Very Fine RIC 71. Trebonianus Gallus, whose full name was Gaius Vibius Trebonianus Gallus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 251 to 253. He was born in Italy and had a successful military career before ascending to the throne. Gallus became emperor after the assassination of his predecessor, Decius, during the chaotic period known as the "Crisis of the Third Century." His reign faced numerous challenges, including invasions by the Goths and the rebellion of the usurper Aemilianus. In an attempt to bring stability to the empire, Gallus appointed his son Volusianus as co-emperor. However, his reign was marked by economic difficulties and military setbacks. In AD 253, the Roman army in Moesia proclaimed the general Aemilianus as emperor, and Gallus was killed by his own troops. His short and troubled reign contributed to the instability of the Roman Empire during the Crisis period.



344 Volusian AD 251-253. Rome Antoninianus AR 23 mm, 4,16 g C VIBIO VOLVSIANO CAES, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / IVNONI MARTIALI, Juno seated facing in ornamented distyle temple; peacock at her side. Very Fine RIC IV 3, 131; C 47. Volusianus, whose full name was Gaius Vibius Volusianus, was a Roman emperor who co-ruled with his father, Trebonianus Gallus, during the "Crisis of the Third Century." He was born in AD 207. In AD 251, Trebonianus Gallus became emperor after the death of Decius. He appointed his son Volusianus as co-emperor to solidify his rule and secure succession. Volusianus' reign was marked by economic challenges and military conflicts, including invasions by the Goths and the rebellion of the usurper Aemilianus. In AD 253, Aemilianus was proclaimed emperor by the Roman army in Moesia, and Trebonianus Gallus and Volusianus were killed by their own troops. Volusianus' short reign left a limited impact on the Roman Empire, but his co-rule with his father is a notable aspect of the turbulent "Crisis of the Third Century" period. His untimely death further contributed to the instability of the Roman Empire during that era.

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345 Volusian AD 251-253. Rome Antoninianus AR 21 mm, 2,82 g IMP CAE C VIB VOLVSIANO AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / P M TR P IIII COS II, (emperor as?) Genius of the Senate, standing left, holding branch and sceptre. Very Fine RIC 140; RSC 92; Sear 9762.

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346 Gallienus AD 253-268. Antioch Billon Antoninianus 21 mm, 3,91 g GALLIENVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / AEQVITAS AVG, Aequitas standing left, holding scales and cornucopia, star in left field. Very Fine RIC 627; MIR 1610g; RSC 25c. Gallienus (Publius Licinius Egnatius Gallienus) was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 253 to 268 during a turbulent period known as the Crisis of the Third Century. He was the son of Emperor Valerian and co-emperor alongside his father. After Valerian was captured by the Sassanid Persians and subsequently died in captivity, Gallienus became the sole ruler. Gallienus faced numerous challenges during his reign, including invasions by various barbarian tribes, economic troubles, and internal revolts. He is often remembered for his efforts to stabilize the Roman Empire by adopting a strategy of allowing semi-autonomous rule in certain provinces and regions. This policy, known as the "Gallienic decentralization," aimed to counter the threats posed by external invaders and internal usurpers. Despite his efforts, Gallienus struggled to maintain control over the vast Roman territories. His reign saw the emergence of several breakaway states and the rise of rival claimants to the imperial throne. He was also faced with the so-called "Thirty Tyrants," a group of usurpers who briefly controlled parts of the empire. Gallienus was an able military commander and fought to repel various barbarian incursions. He is credited with successfully defending the empire against the Alamanni, Goths, and other invaders. However, his inability to fully restore order and unity to the empire led to his assassination in AD 268. Gallienus' reign marked a pivotal period in Roman history, characterized by political and military challenges. His attempts at reform and his efforts to cope with the crisis have garnered both admiration and criticism from historians.



347 Valerian I AD 253-260. Antioch Billon Antoninianus 20 mm, 4,05 g IMP C [P LIC VAL]ERIANVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / [AE]QVITAS AV[GG], Aequitas standing left, holding scales and cornucopia. Good Very Fine RIC 209. Publius Licinius Valerianus, commonly known as Valerian, was the Roman Emperor from 253 to 260. During his reign, he focused on stabilizing the empire's borders while initiating a persecution of Christians. His co-emperor was his son Gallienus, who took sole control after Valerian's capture by the Sasanian Persians in 260. Valerian's early life details are scarce. Born in the 190s, he likely came from a respected senatorial family. In 238, he played a role in recognizing Gordian I as emperor. In 253, he faced a pivotal moment when the Roman Empire was in crisis. The Germanic threat on the Rhine and Danube, coupled with the emergence of the Sasanian Empire in the east, created challenges. Valerian's crucial year was 253. He quelled a revolt in the east and faced the Gothic raids in the northwest. As emperor, he undertook campaigns against the Persians, aiming to secure the eastern provinces. However, his fortunes turned after the disastrous Battle of Edessa in 260, where he was captured by the Persians, marking an unprecedented event in Roman history. His capture severely weakened Roman defenses, leading to political shifts in both the west and east. Valerian died in captivity, with conflicting accounts suggesting he was skinned and his skin dyed and displayed as a warning. The events surrounding Valerian's reign are complex, and historical sources, including the unreliable *Historia Augusta*, provide varied perspectives. Valerian's Christian persecution, the challenges faced during his reign, and his ultimate capture are key aspects of his historical legacy.

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348 Valerian I AD 253-260. Viminacium Antoninianus AR 22 mm, 3,87 g IMP VALERIANVS P AVG, radiate, draped, and cuirassed bust right / VIRTVS AVGG, Virtus standing left, holding victory, spear and shield. Very Fine MIR 811d.

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349 Quietus AD 260-261. Samosata Billon Antoninianus 21 mm, 3,96 g IMP C FVL QVIETVS P F AVG, Radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right, seen from behind / APOLLINI CONSERVA, Apollo standing facing, head left, holding branch and lyre set on ground; star in left field. Very Fine RIC 3; MIR 1728n. Titus Fulvius Junius Quietus was a Roman usurper who, in 260, proclaimed himself emperor in the aftermath of the capture and execution of Emperor Valerian by the Sassanids. Quietus, the younger son of the commander Fulvius Macrianus, ascended to power with the support of his father and Ballistas, the Praetorian Prefect of Valerian. Initially, their rule was largely recognized in the eastern part of the Roman Empire, as evidenced by inscriptions and coins. However, by the summer of 261, their authority faced challenges, particularly in Egypt, where coins featuring Gallienus were once again minted. While Quietus and Ballistas remained in the East, Macrianus Minor and Fulvius Macrianus ventured westward with their army to secure control over the Roman Empire. After the defeat and death of the latter two in Thrace in 261, Quietus' reign became increasingly precarious. Residing in Emesa with Ballistas, Quietus met his demise, likely at the hands of an enraged local population, while Ballistas was killed by Septimius Odaenathus of Palmyra.

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350 Severina AD 270-275. Rome Antoninianus Æ silvered 21 mm, 3,80 g SEVERINA AVG, draped bust right, wearing stephane and set upon crescent / CONCORDIAE MILITVM, Concordia standing left, holding signum in each hand; A to right; XXIR in exergue. Very Fine RIC online 1808. Ulpia Severina, also known as Severina the Younger, was a Roman Empress and the wife of the Roman Emperor Aurelian. She is mentioned in historical sources, but like many figures from the Roman Empire, her life and role are not extensively documented. Severina married Aurelian probably before he became emperor. During his reign from AD 270 to 275, she held the title of Augusta, which was a honorific given to the wives of emperors. Unfortunately, not much is known about her actions or influence during Aurelian's rule.

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351 Tacitus AD 275-276. Cyzicus Antoninianus Æ silvered 22 mm, 3,91 g IMP C M CL TACITVS AVG, cuirassed and radiate bust right / CLEMENTIA TEMP/ Q, emperor standing right, holding sceptre, receiving globe from soldier standing left, holding spear. Nearly Extremely Fine RIC online 4040. Marcus Claudius Tacitus, commonly known as Tacitus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 275 to 276. He was born in the late 2nd century AD, and little is known about his early life and career before becoming emperor. Tacitus was a respected senator and military officer during the tumultuous period known as the Crisis of the Third Century. During this time, the Roman Empire faced numerous challenges, including political instability, economic difficulties, and invasions from external threats. In AD 275, the Roman Empire was facing a serious crisis, and the current emperor, Aurelian, was assassinated. In the vacuum of power, Tacitus was proclaimed emperor by the Roman Senate. He was in his 70s when he became emperor, making him one of the oldest individuals to hold the title. As emperor, he attempted to stabilize the empire and improve its financial situation. His reign was brief, and not much detailed information is available about his policies and actions. Tacitus either died of natural causes in AD 276 or he was murdered, and he was then succeeded by his half-brother Florianus, who ruled for only a few months before being overthrown by Probus.

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352 Tacitus AD 275-276. Rome Antoninianus Æ 22 mm, 3,71 g IMP C M CL TACITVS AVG, cuirassed and radiate bust right / FIDES MILITVM/ XXIϸ, Fides Militum standing facing, holding signa in each hand. Very Fine RIC online 3501.

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353 Probus AD 276-282. Cyzicus Antoninianus Æ silvered 23 mm, 3,60 g IMP C M AVR PROBVS P F AVG, radiate and mantled bust left, holding eagle-tipped scepter / SOLI INVICTO, C M, XXIQ, Sol, head left, raising hand and holding whip, in spread quadriga facing. Good Very Fine RIC 911. Probus was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 276 to 282. He was born in AD 232 in Sirmium (modern-day Sremska Mitrovica, Serbia). Probus rose through the ranks of the Roman army and became a successful military commander before being proclaimed emperor by his troops after the assassination of Emperor Tacitus. During his reign, Probus undertook various military campaigns to restore the Roman Empire's territorial integrity and strength. He defeated invading Germanic tribes and reconquered several territories from the Gallic Empire. Probus was known for his efforts to improve the economy and promote agricultural development by encouraging the cultivation of wastelands. Despite his achievements, Probus faced internal challenges, including revolts by disgruntled soldiers. In AD 282, he was assassinated by his own troops during a mutiny in Sirmium. Probus' reign is remembered for his military successes and reforms, though his assassination marked the end of a period of relative stability in the Roman Empire and contributed to the continued instability during the "Crisis of the Third Century."

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354 Probus AD 276-282. Rome Antoninianus Æ silvered 24 mm, 4,15 g IMP PROBVS AVG, radiate and mantled bust left / ROMAE AETER, Roma seated left within hexastyle temple, holding sceptre and crowning Victory; R crescent E in exergue. Good Very Fine RIC 185.

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355 Probus AD 276-282. Rome Antoninianus Æ silvered 24 mm, 3,61 g IMP PROBVS AVG, radiate, helmeted, cuirassed bust left, holding spear and shield / ADVENTVS AVG, Emperor riding left, holding sceptre and raising right hand, bound captive before horse. Mintmark R crescent digamma R crescent S. Very Fine RIC 157.

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356 Probus AD 276-282. Serdica Antoninianus Æ silvered 25 mm, 3,33 g IMP C M AVR PROBVS AVG, radiate, helmeted and cuirassed bust to left, holding spear and shield / VIRTVS PROBI AVG, emperor galloping to right, spearing enemy, shield below horse; KA•Δ• in exergue. Extremely Fine RIC 878.

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357 Probus AD 276-282. Ticinum Antoninianus Æ silvered 25 mm, 3,22 g IMP C PROBVS P F AVG, radiate and cuirassed bust right / FELIC-ITA-S SEC, SXXT in exergue, Felicitas standing left with caduceus and cornucopia. Extremely Fine RIC V2, 360.

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358 Numerian AD 283-284. Siscia Antoninianus Æ 21 mm, 4,44 g IMP C NVMERIANVS P F AVG, radiate and cuirassed bust right / FIDES EXERCIT AVGG/ SMS XXI, Fides seated left with patera and standard; two standards to left. Very Fine RIC 460. Numerian, whose full name was Marcus Aurelius Numerius Numerianus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 283 to 284. He was born in AD 253 and was the younger son of the emperor Carus. In AD 283 Numerian was elevated to the rank of Caesar by his father Carus, who ruled as Augustus. Numerian was assigned to assist his elder brother Carinus in governing the western provinces of the Roman Empire. After their father's death in AD 283, Carus and Numerian jointly ruled the empire. However, in AD 284, while on a military campaign in the East against the Sassanian Empire, Numerian died under mysterious circumstances.

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359 Maximianus Herculius AD 286-305. Lugdunum (Lyon) Antoninianus Æ 23 mm, 3,56 g IMP C MAXIMIANVS P AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / VIRTVTI AVGG, Hercules standing facing, fighting Nemean lion; behind, club. Very Fine Cohen -; RIC -; Bastien 212a. Marcus Aurelius Valerius Maximianus, commonly known as Maximian, was a prominent Roman emperor who ruled as a co-emperor with Diocletian from AD 286 to 305. Maximian was born in AD 250 in the province of Pannonia (modern-day Hungary). He rose through the military ranks and became a trusted general under Emperor Diocletian. In AD 286, Diocletian appointed Maximian as his co-emperor, with the title of Augustus, to help govern the vast Roman Empire more effectively. Maximian was known for his strong military leadership and played a crucial role in the Tetrarchy system, a division of power between two Augusti and two Caesars. During his rule, Maximian successfully defeated various external threats and stabilized the Roman frontiers. However, internal power struggles and disagreements with his co-emperor Diocletian led to tensions within the Tetrarchy. In AD 305, Maximian abdicated from the throne, but he was later persuaded to return to power briefly, only to abdicate again. After his second abdication, Maximian attempted to usurp power but was ultimately defeated and forced to commit suicide in AD 310. Despite his tumultuous end, Maximian left a significant impact on Roman history as a capable military leader and one of the key figures in the Tetrarchy system.

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360 Maximianus Herculius AD 286-305. Siscia Antoninianus Æ 23 mm, 3,50 g IMP C M A VAL MAXIMIANVS P F AVG, radiate and cuirassed bust to right / CONSERVATOR AVGG, emperor standing to right, holding sceptre, facing Hercules standing to left, leaning on club, both sacrificing at altar between them; Γ•XXI•ΑΙ• in exergue. Good Very Fine RIC V.2 580.

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361 Constantius I Chlorus, as Caesar AD 293-305. Lugdunum (Lyon) Follis Æ 27 mm, 8,70 g CONSTANTIVS NOB C, laureate and cuirassed bust of Constantius I right / GENIO POP-VLI ROMANI, Genius standing facing, head left, holding patera over altar at his feet to left, and cornucopia, II/ PLC. Good Very Fine RIC 130. Constantius I Chlorus, also known as Constantius Chlorus, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 293 to 306. He was a member of the Tetrarchy system established by Emperor Diocletian, where the Roman Empire was divided into four regions, each ruled by two co-emperors (Augusti) and two junior emperors (Caesars). Constantius Chlorus served as a Caesar, holding the title of Caesar of the West, under the Augustus of the West, Maximian. His responsibilities included governing the Western Roman Empire and assisting the Augustus in managing the empire's affairs. During his time as Caesar, Constantius Chlorus played a crucial role in securing the borders of the Western Roman Empire and maintaining stability within his region. He was known for his effective military leadership and his efforts to combat external threats and internal revolts. In AD 305, Emperor Diocletian abdicated, and Maximian followed suit. The Tetrarchy system faced challenges as various factions within the Roman Empire vied for power. Constantius Chlorus emerged as one of the potential successors to the imperial throne. In AD 306, Constantius Chlorus died unexpectedly in Eboracum (modern-day York, England) while on a campaign against the Picts and Scots in northern Britain. His death set off a series of events that eventually led to the breakdown of the Tetrarchy system and the rise of his son, Constantine the Great, who became the sole ruler of the Western Roman Empire and later reunified the entire Roman Empire under his rule. Constantius Chlorus is remembered as a capable and respected leader, known for his military prowess and administrative skills during his tenure as Caesar of the West. His son, Constantine the Great, would go on to become one of the most influential emperors in Roman history and played a significant role in the Christianization of the Roman Empire.



362 Galeria Valeria AD 293-311. Heraclea Follis Æ 25 mm, 7,44 g GAL VALERIA AVG, pearl-diademed and draped bust right / VENERI VICTRICI, Venus standing facing, head left, holding apple and raising drapery over shoulder, HTB in exergue. Good Very Fine RIC 43. Galeria Valeria was a late Roman empress, daughter of Emperor Diocletian, who ruled the Roman Empire from 284. Married to Galerius, one of the new Caesars in Diocletian's restructured Tetrarchy, she played a significant role in the political changes of the time. Galerius named a new province in Pannonia after her as part of the provincial restructuring. After Diocletian's abdication in 305, Galerius became Augustus, and Valeria was elevated to Augusta and mater castrorum ("Mother of the Camp")—the only one among the Tetrarchs to hold such a position. Following the death of Constantius in 306 and the subsequent collapse of the Tetrarchy into civil wars, Galeria faced challenges. After Galerius' death in 311, she fled with her mother and stepson from Licinius, who illegitimately seized Galerius' provinces. Seeking refuge with Maximinus Daia, the legitimate heir in the East, Valeria rejected Maximinus's proposal of marriage, leading to her confiscation and banishment to Syria. During the civil war between Maximinus Daia and Licinius, the latter emerged victorious in 313 and ordered Valeria's execution. Despite an attempt to flee and 15 months in hiding, she was eventually captured and, along with her stepson Candidianus, executed.

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363 Galeria Valeria AD 293-311. Serdica Follis Æ 29 mm, 5,33 g GAL VALERIA AVG, diademed and draped bust right / VENERI VICTRICI, Venus standing left, holding apple and raising drapery, star in left field, B in right field, mintmark dot SM dot SD dot. Very Fine RIC VI Serdica 41; Sear 14591.

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364 Galeria Valeria AD 293-311. Serdica Follis Æ 27 mm, 6,25 g GAL VALERIA AVG, diademed and draped bust right / VENERI VICTRICI, Venus standing facing, head left, holding up apple and raising drapery over shoulder; star in left field, Γ in right field, •SM•SD• in exergue. Good Very Fine RIC 42.

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365 Constantine I the Great AD 306-337. Antioch Follis Æ 20 mm, 2,78 g CONSTANTINVS AVG, laureate head to right / PROVIDENTIAE AVGG, camp gate with no doors and two turrets; star above, pellet within doorway, SMANTΓ in exergue. Extremely Fine RIC VII 71. Constantine I, commonly known as Constantine the Great, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 306 to 337. He was born on February 27, AD 272, in Naissus (modern-day Niš, Serbia). Constantine's rise to power came after the death of his father, Constantius Chlorus. He emerged as the sole ruler of the Western Roman Empire in AD 312 after defeating his rival Maxentius at the Battle of the Milvian Bridge. Constantine is best known for his religious and political reforms. In AD 313, he issued the Edict of Milan, granting religious tolerance to Christians and ending the persecution of Christians in the Roman Empire. He later became a patron of Christianity and played a significant role in its establishment as the state religion. Constantine also initiated administrative and military reforms, including the foundation of Constantinople (modern-day Istanbul) as the new capital of the Eastern Roman Empire in AD 330. His reign marked a crucial turning point in Roman history, as he laid the foundation for the Byzantine Empire and established Christianity as a dominant religion in the Roman world. Constantine the Great is remembered as one of the most influential and significant Roman emperors in history.

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366 Constantine I the Great AD 306-337. Aquileia Follis Æ 30 mm, 7,53 g CONSTANTINVS NOB CAES, laureate bust right / VIRTVS AVGG ET CAESS N N, Constantine on horseback galloping to right, holding round shield and casting spear at enemy prone before him; to left, second enemy lying dead with broken spear in body; AQT in exergue. Very Fine RIC 108.

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367 Constantine I the Great AD 306-337. Aquileia Follis Æ 18 mm, 3,62 g CONSTANTINVS AVG, laureate head to right / D N CONSTANTINI MAX AVG, wreath enclosing VOT • XX in three lines, laurel branches flanking; AQP• in exergue. Extremely Fine RIC VII 104 var. (pellet in mintmark).

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368 Constantine I the Great AD 306-337. Constantinople Follis Æ 19 mm, 2,93 g CONSTANTINVS MAX AVG, diademed head right / LIBERTAS PVBLICA / B / CONS, Victory, head left and holding wreath in each hand, standing facing in galley right. Very Fine RIC 25.

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369 Constantine I the Great AD 306-337. Ticinum Follis Æ 22 mm, 4,31 g CONSTANTINVS P F AVG, laureate and cuirassed bust right / SOLI INVICTO COMITI/ TT, Sol standing facing, raising hand and holding globe. Extremely Fine RIC 3.

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370 Constantine I the Great AD 306-337. Ticinum Follis Æ 18 mm, 3,09 g CONSTANTINVS AVG, laureate bust right / D N CONSTANTINI MAX AVG, wreath enclosing VOT XX; TT in exergue. Extremely Fine RIC 140.

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371 Constantine I the Great AD 306-337. Treveri Follis Æ 23 mm, 4,92 g IMP CONSTANTINVS AVG, laureate and cuirassed bust to right / SOLI INVICTO COMITI, radiate and draped bust of Sol to right. Very Fine RIC VI 890.

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372 Maxentius AD 306-312. Ostia Follis Æ 26 mm, 6,76 g IMP C MAXENTIVS P F AVG, laureate head to right / FIDES MILITVM AVG N, Fides standing to left with standard in each hand, MOSTS in exergue. Very Fine RIC VI 45. Maxentius, also known as Marcus Aurelius Valerius Maxentius, was a Roman emperor who ruled from AD 306 to 312. He was a member of the Constantinian dynasty, which was a prominent political family during the late Roman Empire. Maxentius was the son of the former Roman Emperor Maximian, who had abdicated in AD 305 during the Tetrarchy system, which was a system of rule by four emperors instituted by Emperor Diocletian. When his father resigned, Maxentius declared himself emperor in Rome, defying the tetrarchic system. His rule was initially limited to the city of Rome and its surrounding regions, as he faced rival claimants to the imperial throne. One of his main rivals was Constantine the Great, who was the son of another Tetrarch, Constantius Chlorus. Constantine had his own ambitions to become the sole ruler of the Roman Empire. The conflict between Maxentius and Constantine culminated in the Battle of the Milvian Bridge in AD 312. According to Christian tradition, before the battle, Constantine saw a vision of a Christian symbol (often referred to as the Chi-Rho), and he heard the words "In this sign, conquer." Taking it as a divine sign, Constantine ordered his soldiers to paint the Chi-Rho symbol on their shields. Constantine's forces were victorious at the Battle of the Milvian Bridge, and Maxentius was defeated and killed during the battle. Following his victory, Constantine became the sole ruler of the Western Roman Empire. Maxentius is remembered as a brief and tumultuous ruler who challenged the Tetrarchy system and attempted to assert his authority over the western regions of the Roman Empire. However, his reign came to an end with the rise of Constantine, who went on to become one of the most significant and influential emperors in Roman history.



373 Maxentius AD 306-312. Ostia Follis Æ 25 mm, 5,60 g IMP C MAXENTIVS P F AVG, laureate head right / AETERNITAS AVG N / M OST B, Wolf and twins between the Dioscuri standing facing each other, their horses between. Very Fine RIC 16.

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374 Constantine II, as Caesar AD 317-337. Thessaloniki Follis Æ 19 mm, 2,74 g CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB C, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust left / PROVIDENTIAE CAESS, camp gate with six rows, no doors and two turrets; star above, SMTSA in exergue. Good Very Fine RIC 157. Constantine II, one of the sons of the famed Constantine the Great, stepped onto the stage of Roman history during a pivotal period. His rule, from AD 337 to 340, was characterized by the intricate web of power struggles and divisions that followed his father's demise. Born into the imperial purple, Constantine II found himself in a world where the Roman Empire was too vast to be ruled by a single hand. In AD 337, upon his father's death, the empire was partitioned among Constantine's three sons. Constantine II's realm encompassed territories in the western part of the empire, extending into modern-day Western Europe. However, his reign was far from tranquil. Constantine II, along with his brothers Constantius II and Constans, engaged in a complex dance for power, each vying for control of various regions. Their ambitions often led to clashes and conflicts within the imperial family. Constantine II's life was cut short in AD 340 during a military campaign against his brother Constans. He met his demise on the battlefield, marking a chapter in the ongoing saga of imperial succession and division within the Roman Empire.

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375 Constantine II, as Caesar AD 317-337. Treveri Follis Æ 20 mm, 3,06 g FL CL CONSTANTINVS IVN N C, bare-headed, draped and cuirassed bust to right / PRINCIPI IVENTVTIS, prince advancing to right, holding transverse spear and globe; T-F across fields, BTR in exergue. Very Fine RIC VII 144.

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376 Licinius II, as Caesar AD 317-324. Treveri Follis Æ 20 mm, 3,39 g LICINIVS IVN NOB C, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / VIRTVS EXERCIT, trophy flanked by captives; STR in exergue. Extremely Fine RIC 263. Licinius II, also known as Valerius Licinianus Licinius, briefly held the title of Roman Emperor from AD 317 to 324. Born around AD 315, he was the son of Emperor Licinius, who co-ruled the Roman Empire as an Augustus in the Eastern part of the realm. Licinius II's elevation to the position of Caesar in AD 317 occurred when he was just a child. This appointment was made by his father as part of the complex system known as the Tetrarchy, in which the Roman Empire was governed by four emperors. The Tetrarchy was marked by political turmoil and power struggles, and Licinius II's rule was a result of this intricate environment. Notably, he was related to the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great through marriage. His half-sister, Constantia, was married to Constantine, and this familial connection played a role in the broader political dynamics of the time. However, Licinius II's time as Caesar was exceedingly brief. In 324 AD, while he was still a child, he passed away, possibly due to illness. His death held significance in the ongoing power struggle between Constantine and his father, Licinius. In the grand tapestry of Roman history, Licinius II's short and relatively uneventful rule is a minor chapter. His connection to the influential Emperor Constantine, however, was a noteworthy factor in the complex political landscape of the era.



377 City Commemorative AD 330-354. Siscia Follis Æ 18 mm, 2,59 g VRBS ROMA, helmeted and mantled bust of Roma to left / FSIS, She-wolf standing left, suckling Romulus and Remus; above, two eight-pointed stars. Nearly Extremely Fine RIC 222. The Urbs Roma coin was created to honor and celebrate the founding of Rome. It was minted by Emperor Constantine and his successors, with a specific purpose of highlighting the historical continuity of Rome, especially after Constantine established Constantinople as the new capital of the Roman world. The coin's design was a departure from the traditional imperial Roman coins used in the preceding three centuries. Unlike the typical imperial coins featuring the bust of the ruling Emperor, the Urbs Roma coin portrayed the bust of Roma, the goddess personifying the city of Rome itself. This choice was a deliberate homage to the founding and significance of Rome as the original center of the Roman Empire. The coin symbolized the enduring importance of Rome and its legacy, even as the empire's administrative center shifted to Constantinople. By featuring Roma's bust, the coin aimed to reinforce the continuity of ancient Roman culture and tradition despite the changes in the empire's political and administrative structures.



378 Constantius II AD 337-361. Alexandria Follis Æ 23 mm, 7,06 g D N CONSTANTIVS P F AVG, pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust right / FEL TEMP REPARATIO, soldier left, spearing fallen horseman, shield to lower right; Γ to left, ALEΓ in exergue. Good Very Fine RIC 72. Constantius II, whose full name was Flavius Julius Constantius, served as a Roman Emperor from AD 337 to 361. He belonged to the Constantinian dynasty and played a crucial role in a pivotal period in the Roman Empire's history. Born in AD 317 as the third son of the famed Constantine the Great and Fausta, Constantius II ascended to power following his father's death in AD 337. At the young age of 20, he became the Emperor of the Eastern Roman Empire, a position he held until his own death. One of the defining aspects of Constantius II's reign was his approach to religion. He favored Arian Christianity, a theological stance that diverged from the Nicene Creed, which was supported by his brothers. This religious preference led to tensions and disputes within the empire. His reign was marred by conflict, notably with his cousin Julian the Apostate. Julian's declaration as Emperor by the legions in Gaul sparked a series of battles and campaigns known as the "Civil Wars of the Tetrarchy." Ultimately, Julian's forces prevailed, leading to significant changes in the empire. Constantius II also had to contend with the Persian Sassanid Empire, resulting in the Roman-Persian Wars. These conflicts primarily revolved around territorial disputes in the eastern provinces of the empire. Constantius II's life and reign came to an end in AD 361 while campaigning against the Persians. His death marked the conclusion of the Constantinian dynasty, and he was succeeded by his cousin Julian, who went on to become the last pagan emperor of Rome. Constantius II's rule provides a window into the complex interplay of religion, military conflict, and power struggles during the later years of the Roman Empire.



379 Vetranio AD 350. Siscia Follis Æ 19 mm, 2,19 g D N VETRANIO P F AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / VIRTVS AVGVSTORVM / Γ SIS, Vetranio, holding spear and globus, advancing right; bound captive to right. Good Very Fine RIC 296. Vetranio, whose full name was Vetranio Augustus, was a Roman emperor who briefly ruled in AD 350 during the tumultuous period known as the "Constantinian dynasty." He was a career soldier and rose to prominence as a senior military officer in the Roman Empire. In AD 350, after the death of the emperor Constans, Vetranio was proclaimed emperor by his troops in the region of Illyricum (modern-day Balkans). He gained support from various Roman provinces, and for a brief time, he ruled alongside the co-emperor Constantius II, who held control over the eastern provinces. Despite his initial success, Vetranio's reign was short-lived. Constantius II felt threatened by Vetranio's power and initiated negotiations to secure his abdication. In AD 351, Vetranio willingly stepped down from the throne, and Constantius II allowed him to retire peacefully to private life.



380 Jovian AD 363-364. Thessaloniki Double Maiorina Æ 27 mm, 8,07 g D N IOVIANV-S P F P P AVG, rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust right / VICTORIA ROMANORVM, • TESA • below, Jovian standing facing, head right, holding labarum with right hand and victoriola with left. Very Fine RIC VIII, 238. Flavius Jovianus, commonly known as Jovian, assumed the Roman imperial throne in AD 363 following the death of Emperor Julian. Born in AD 331 in Singidunum (modern Belgrade), Jovian was raised as a Christian. His military career flourished, and under Julian, he became the commander of the imperial bodyguard. Jovian's ascension to emperorhood occurred swiftly after Julian's demise during a battle with the Sassanids. Facing intensified Persian attacks, Jovian negotiated a peace treaty in AD 363, relinquishing significant territories. Critics, especially among contemporaries, lamented the perceived losses, notably the fortified city of Nisibis. In domestic policy, Jovian reversed Julian's anti-Christian stance, promoting religious tolerance and supporting Christianity while confiscating temple assets. His reign, however, lasted only one winter, ending abruptly in 364 when he died unexpectedly in Dadastana. The circumstances of his death, possibly due to carbon monoxide poisoning, remain debated. Despite mixed assessments of his rule, Jovian's pragmatic approach in securing the retreat of Roman troops from the East is recognized. While criticized for the territorial concessions to Persia, some modern scholars highlight Jovian's attempts at reconciliation and the normalization of relations between the Roman and Persian empires. Theological historian Theodoret commended Jovian for ending Christian persecution, providing a nuanced view of his short-lived but significant reign.



381 Theodosius II AD 402-450. Constantinople Solidus AV 22 mm, 4,42 g D N THEODOSIVS P F AVG, helmeted, three-quarter facing bust, holding spear over shoulder and shield decorated with horseman / CONCORDIA AVGG E, Constantinopolis seated facing, holding sceptre and Victory on globe, resting her foot on a prow; star in left field, CONOB in exergue. Very Fine, Graffiti on the obverse RIC 202; Depeyrot 73/2. Theodosius II, known as Flavius Theodosius, was a prominent Roman Emperor who reigned over the Eastern Roman Empire, which would later become the Byzantine Empire, from AD 408 to 450. His ascent to the throne was unique, as he took on the mantle of leadership at the young age of 7 following the death of his father, Emperor Arcadius. Due to his youth, Theodosius II was placed under the guardianship of various regents during the early years of his reign. What sets Theodosius II apart in history is the remarkable length of his rule, spanning over four decades. Throughout his reign, he heavily relied on the counsel and guidance of advisors and regents, especially during his formative years as a ruler. One of his most enduring contributions was the construction of the famous Theodosian Walls that fortified the city of Constantinople, the Byzantine capital. These formidable defenses played a pivotal role in safeguarding the city from numerous external threats, including barbarian invasions. Theodosius II was a devout Christian, and he actively supported the Nicene Creed, an important doctrine of Christian orthodoxy. He also played a significant role in ecclesiastical matters, such as the convocation of the Council of Ephesus in 431, aimed at addressing theological controversies of the time. His reign also saw the initiation of efforts to compile and organize Roman laws, resulting in the creation of the Theodosian Code. This legal code became a vital source of Roman law for both the Eastern and Western Roman Empires, as well as for medieval Europe. In terms of relations with the Western Roman Empire, Theodosius II had a complex connection with his counterpart, Emperor Honorius. The Western Empire was grappling with internal strife and external threats, notably the Visigothic and Vandal invasions. Theodosius II provided limited assistance to Honorius, reflecting the challenges faced by both empires during this period. Theodosius II's reign came to an unfortunate end in AD 450 due to a riding accident. He was succeeded by Marcian, who was married to Theodosius II's sister Pulcheria. Theodosius II's long and relatively stable rule played a crucial role in preserving the Eastern Roman Empire during a time of considerable external pressures and internal



382 Theodosius II AD 402-450. Constantinople Solidus AV 21 mm, 4,37 g D N THEODOSIVS•P•F•AVG, pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing slightly to right, holding spear and shield decorated with horseman motif / IMP•XXXXII•COS•XVII•P•P•, Constantinopolis seated to left, holding globus cruciger and sceptre, foot on prow, shield by throne; star in left field, COMOB in exergue. Very Fine RIC X 300; Depeyrot 84/1.

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383 Theodosius II AD 402-450. Constantinople Solidus AV 20 mm, 4,20 g D N THEODOSIVS P F AVG, helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust three-quarters facing, holding spear and shield decorated with horseman motif / SALVS REIPVBLICAE €, Theodosius II and Valentinian III seated facing, both nimbate, each holding mappa in right hand, cruciform sceptre in left; star above, CONOB in exergue. Very Fine RIC 237; Depeyrot 79/1.

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384 Theodosius II AD 402-450. Possibly a barbaric imitation Tremissis AV 14 mm, 1,17 g D N THEODOSIVS P F AVG, pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust right / VICTORIA AVGVSTORVM, Victory advancing to front, head left, holding wreath and globus cruciger; in r. field, star and in exergue, CONOB. Very Fine RIC -, cf. 273. MIRB -. Depeyrot -.

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385 Valentinian III AD 425-455. Constantinople Solidus AV 21 mm, 4,39 g D N VALENTINIANVS P F AVG, pearl-diademed, helmeted, and cuirassed bust right, holding spear over his right shoulder and shield decorated with horseman spearing a fallen enemy / VICTORIA AVGGG, Victory standing left, holding long jewelled cross; star in right field, CONOB in exergue. Very Fine RIC 505 (Marcian). Valentinian III, born in 419, ascended to the Western Roman Emperor's throne in 425 under the guidance of his mother, Galla Placidia, and military commander Flavius Aëtius. Facing internal strife and external threats, his reign witnessed the Vandal invasion in 439, resulting in the loss of Africa and a significant blow to Italy's food supply. Aëtius, though influential, couldn't prevent the erosion of imperial authority, and the Western Roman Empire faced challenges from various barbarian groups. Valentinian's relations with the Eastern Roman Empire soured when Markian became Eastern Emperor without consultation, triggering tensions until 452. Seeking independence, Valentinian personally murdered Aëtius in 454, but the move backfired, weakening his position. On March 16, 455, during a military exercise, Valentinian met his demise, assassinated on the Mars Field in Rome. His death marked the end of the Theodosian dynasty's rule in the Western Roman Empire. Posthumously, his wife Licinia Eudoxia married Petronius Maximus, and the Vandals, led by Geiseric, sacked Rome in 455. Valentinian's family, including his daughter Eudocia and Placidia, faced political turmoil, with strategic marriages attempting to navigate the shifting landscape of the Western Roman Empire.



386 Marcian AD 450-457. Constantinople Solidus AV 20 mm, 4,52 g D N MARCIANVS P F AVG, pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing slightly to right, holding spear and shield decorated with horseman motif / VICTORIA AVGGG H, Victory standing facing, head to left, supporting long jewelled cross; star in right field, CONOB in exergue. Nearly Very Fine RIC X 510; Depeyrot 87/1. Flavius Marcianus, known as Markian, rose from humble beginnings to rule the Eastern Roman Empire from 450 to 457. Born around 390 in Thrace, he forged a successful military career under magister militum Aspar, participating in campaigns, including the failed 441 operation against the Vandals. Markian's ascent followed Emperor Theodosius II's unexpected death in 450, leading to his independent selection by the court, military, and senators in Constantinople. Markian's internal policies aimed at stabilizing the empire, addressing financial concerns, and fostering religious unity. His reign saw the significant Fourth Ecumenical Council of Chalcedon in 451, solidifying the Chalcedonian line and asserting the Patriarch of Constantinople's equality with the Bishop of Rome. In foreign affairs, Markian defied the Huns in 450, enhancing the empire's prestige. He played a key role in the aftermath of Attila's death in 453, negotiating with factions and resettling some under Roman control. Markian's death in 457 marked the end of a prosperous era. Despite his brief rule, his fiscal responsibility, religious diplomacy, and diplomatic acumen left a lasting legacy, with subsequent rulers often urged to "rule like Markian."



387 Leo I AD 457-474. Constantinople Solidus AV 19 mm, 4,04 g D N LEO PERPET AVG, pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing slightly to right, holding spear and shield decorated with horseman motif / VICTORIA AVGGG S, Victory standing to left, holding long jewelled cross; star in right field, CONOB in exergue. Good Very Fine RIC X 605; Depeyrot 93/1. Leo I, also known as Leon I, ascended to the Byzantine throne from 457 until his death in 474. Born around 401 in Dacia, he climbed the military ranks and became emperor after the death of Markian, orchestrated by the influential Aspar. Leo, unlike his predecessors, demonstrated a proactive approach to the weakening Western Roman Empire. In 467, he dispatched Anthemius to Italy with significant military and financial support, but their campaign to reclaim Africa in 468 ended disastrously, depleting the Eastern Roman treasury. Contrary to expectations, Leo proved a shrewd political player, gradually freeing himself from Aspar's influence. The power struggle climaxed in 471 when Leo's men assassinated Aspar and his son Ardaburius, earning Leo the epithet "Makelles" or "the Butcher." Leo effectively managed conflicts with the Huns and Goths, recognizing Theoderic Strabo as Gothic king. Leo's reign maintained peace with the Sassanids, relieving military pressures. Despite internal challenges, strained relations in the West, and a depleted treasury, Leo's legacy includes evidence of Byzantine overtures to China and the construction of a vanished forum in Constantinople. He was married to Verina.



388 Zeno AD 474-491. Constantinople Solidus AV 22 mm, 4,38 g D N ZENO PERP AVG, pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, holding spear and shield decorated with horseman motif / VICTORIA AVGGG Θ, Victory standing facing, head to left, holding long jewelled cross; star in right field, CONOB in exergue. Very Fine RIC X 911 and 930. Flavius Zeno, known as Zenon, served as (East) Roman Emperor from January 29, 474, until his death on April 9, 491. Rising from the Isaurian tribe, Zenon caught Emperor Leo I's attention in 466 by exposing treason, eventually leading to his rise in military ranks. Despite facing challenges to his legitimacy, including exile orchestrated by his mother-in-law Verina, Zenon returned to Constantinople in August 476, overcoming opposition and solidifying his sole rule over the Roman Empire. Zenon grappled with internal and external threats, successfully navigating the Ostrogothic menace on the Balkans and ceding Western territories to Odoacer due to resource constraints. Diplomatically, he recognized Vandal ruler Geiserich's authority in North Africa and maintained peace with the Sassanids. However, religious conflicts, including suppression of pagans and a compromise attempt with Monophysites, led to the Acacian Schism. Zenon's death in 491 prompted his wife Ariadne to marry Flavius Anastasius as his successor. Despite historical depictions of weakness, Zenon's pragmatic decisions and diplomatic maneuvers stabilized the empire, laying the foundation for Anastasius to assert imperial authority.

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389 Zeno AD 474-491. Pseudo-Imperial issue. Uncertain mint Solidus AV 19 mm, 4,45 g D N ZENO PERP AVG, pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing slightly to right, holding spear and shield decorated with horseman motif / VICTORIA AVGGG Δ, Victory standing facing, head to left, holding long jewelled cross; star in right field, CONOB in exergue. Very Fine For prototype, cf. RIC X 911 and 930, Depeyrot 108/1.

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390 Zeno AD 474-491. Pseudo-Imperial issue. Uncertain mint Solidus AV 21 mm, 4,14 g D N ZENO PERP AVG, pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing slightly to right, holding spear and shield decorated with horseman motif / VICTORIA AVGGG, Victory standing facing, head to left, holding long jewelled cross; star in right field, CONOB in exergue. Very Fine cf. RIC X 911 and 930, Depeyrot 108/1.

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391 Zeno AD 474-491. Theoderic. Pseudo-Imperial issue. Uncertain mint Solidus AV 20 mm, 4,43 g D N ZENO PERP AVG, pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing slightly to right, holding spear and shield decorated with horseman motif / VICTORIA AVGGGH, Victory standing facing, head to left, holding long jewelled cross; star in right field, CONOB in exergue. Very Fine cf. RIC X 911 and 930, Depeyrot 108/1.

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392 Basiliscus AD 475-476. Constantinople Solidus AV 20 mm, 4,38 g D N bASILISCVS P P AVG, pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing slightly to right, holding spear and shield decorated with horseman motif / VICTORIA AVGGG, Victory standing facing, head to left, holding long jewelled cross; star in right field, CONOB in exergue. Very Fine, Graffiti on the obverse RIC X 1003; Depeyrot 101/1. Basiliscus, a usurper Roman Emperor, reigned in the years 475 and 476. He was the brother of Empress Verina and brother-in-law to Emperor Leo I. Basiliscus served as consul in 465 and played a role in the unsuccessful campaign against the Vandal king Genseric in 468. Later sources criticize him for either betrayal or failure during this expedition. In 474, discontent with Emperor Zeno's disputed legitimacy led to a conspiracy, orchestrated, according to some accounts, by Basiliscus's sister, Verina. Zeno, forewarned of the plot, fled Constantinople on January 9, 475. The next day, with Senate approval, Basiliscus assumed the imperial throne. He received co-emperor recognition from Romulus Augustulus, another usurper in Italy. Zeno, returning with a formidable army in 476, found dissatisfaction among Basiliscus's troops due to mismanagement and religious policies. With the involvement of generals Illus and Armatius, Zeno regained control in July or early August 476. Basiliscus's fate is uncertain, with some sources claiming he sought refuge in a church but eventually surrendered to Zeno. Whether true or not, Basiliscus met his end, and Zeno resumed rule in Constantinople.

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393 Zeno, second reign AD 476-491. Constantinople Solidus AV 19 mm, 4,38 g D N ZENO PERP AVG, diademed, helmeted, and cuirassed bust of Zeno facing, his head turned slightly to the right, holding spear over his right shoulder and shield, ornamented with horseman spearing fallen foe, over his left / VICTORIA AVGGG I / CONOB, Victory standing left, holding long, jeweled cross with her right hand; in field to right, star. Very Fine Depeyrot 108/1; RIC 910.

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394 Anastasius I AD 491-518. Constantinople Solidus AV 20 mm, 4,44 g D N ANASTASIVS P P AVG, pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing slightly to right, cross on helmet, holding spear and shield with horseman motif / VICTORIA AVGGG I, Victory standing facing, head to left, holding long jewelled cross; star in right field, CONOB in exergue. Very Fine DOC 4b; Sear 3. Anastasius I, who reigned as Byzantine Emperor from AD 491 to 518, stands out in history for his dynamic leadership and impactful reforms. Born in modest circumstances, he ascended to the throne through a distinguished career in civil service and the military. His reign was marked by a series of pivotal reforms. Foremost among these were his economic policies. Anastasius initiated comprehensive fiscal reforms to stabilize the Byzantine economy, restructuring tax collection and reducing state expenditures. This prudent approach bolstered the empire's financial health. Anastasius also embarked on religious policies aimed at reconciling the differences between Chalcedonian Christians and Monophysites, two major Christian sects. Though his efforts made strides in promoting religious harmony, complete unity remained elusive. Infrastructure-wise, he fortified the empire's eastern frontier to protect against external threats, notably constructing the formidable Anastasian Wall. In foreign affairs, Anastasius skillfully negotiated a peace treaty with the formidable Sassanian Empire, easing tensions along the eastern border. Anastasius I's reign thus left a lasting legacy of financial stability, infrastructure development, and efforts towards religious reconciliation. His reign stands as a testament to the power of pragmatic governance in shaping the destiny of a vast and diverse empire. Anastasios was the last Roman emperor to hold the titles pontifex and pater patriae, and also the last to be called divus after his death.



395 Justinian I AD 527-565. Theoupolis (Antioch) Follis or 40 Nummi Æ 33 mm, 17,81 g D N IVSTINIANVS P P AVG, Justinian enthroned facing, holding long sceptre and globe cruciger / Large M between star and crescent; above, cross; beneath, A; in exergue, +THEUP. Very Fine Sear 214. Justinian I, also known as Justinian the Great, was a Byzantine emperor who reigned from AD 527 to 565. He is considered one of the most important and influential rulers of the Byzantine Empire, leaving a lasting impact on its history and culture. Justinian was born around AD 482 in Tauresium, which is in present-day North Macedonia. He came from humble origins but rose through the ranks of the Byzantine bureaucracy. He served as a trusted advisor to his uncle, Emperor Justin I, and eventually succeeded him as emperor. During his reign, Justinian implemented significant reforms in various aspects of Byzantine society and government. He is best known for his efforts to restore the territories of the Western Roman Empire that had been lost to invading tribes. His most famous general, Belisarius, led successful military campaigns that briefly reclaimed parts of Italy and North Africa. One of Justinian's most lasting legacies is his codification of Roman law. He commissioned a legal expert named Tribonian to compile and organize the existing Roman laws into a coherent legal code known as the "Corpus Juris Civilis" or the "Justinian Code." This legal code became the foundation of Byzantine law and had a profound influence on subsequent legal systems in Europe. Justinian was also a patron of art, architecture, and education. He commissioned numerous grand building projects, including the construction of the Hagia Sophia, one of the most famous and iconic buildings in the world. He also founded schools and universities to promote learning and scholarship. Despite his many achievements, Justinian's reign was not without challenges. He faced civil unrest and conflicts with various adversaries, both internally and externally. Additionally, the cost of his military campaigns and ambitious building projects put a strain on the Byzantine economy. Justinian I passed away in AD 565. He was succeeded by his nephew, Justin II. Although Justinian's efforts to restore the Roman Empire in the West were only temporary, his influence on Byzantine law, architecture, and culture left a profound and lasting impact on the Byzantine Empire and the broader history of civilization.



396 Tiberius II Constantine AD 578-582. Constantinople Solidus AV 20 mm, 4,44 g CONSTANT AYC 414 FELIX, crowned bust facing, wearing consular robes and holding mappa with his right hand, eagle-topped scepter surmounted with a cross, with his left hand / VICTOR TIBERI AYC, cross potent on base and four steps; CONOB in exergue. Good Very Fine DOC 2; MIB 2; Sear 420. Tiberius I Constantine, or Tiberius II, ruled as Eastern Roman Emperor from 578 to 582. Rising from the Latin-speaking region of Thrace, he ascended through the military ranks during Emperor Justinian's era. In 574, he became Caesar and later took full control in 578 due to Emperor Justin II's mental health decline, assuming the title Imperator Caesar Flavius Tiberius Constantinus Augustus. Tiberius faced challenges in stabilizing the Eastern frontier against the Persians, achieving a significant victory in the Battle of Melitene. He also dealt with North African conflicts, including a victory against the Moors. Domestically, Tiberius pursued tolerant policies toward Christian dissenters but took a strict stance against non-Christians. A rebellion in Syria in 579 highlighted religious tensions. Financial policies initially endeared Tiberius to the public, but his later spending practices faced criticism. His reign ended in 582, and his adopted sons, Mauricius and Germanus, smoothly transitioned to power, with Mauricius succeeding him as Emperor. Tiberius' rule left a mark on Eastern Roman history, navigating both external threats and internal complexities.



397 Heraclius with Heraclius Constantine AD 610-641. Constantinople Solidus AV 21 mm, 4,48 g ∂∂ NN ΗΕΡΑΚΛΙΗΣ ΕΥ ΗΕΡΑ ΚΟΝΣΤ P P AV, facing busts of Heraclius and Heraclius Constantine, each wearing chlamys and simple crown with cross; cross above / VICTORIA AVCH H, cross potent on three steps; CONOB in exergue. Very Fine DOC 13 var. (unlisted officina); Sear 738. Heraclius, born in AD 575, was a significant Byzantine emperor who reigned from AD 610 to 641. His ascension to the throne came after a period of upheaval, including the overthrow of the previous emperor, Phocas. He inherited an empire facing numerous challenges, both internally and externally. One of the most defining aspects of his rule was the prolonged conflict with the Persian Empire, known as the Byzantine-Sassanid Wars. These wars lasted for over two decades, culminating in Heraclius's victorious entry into the Persian capital, Ctesiphon, in 628. This victory was significant not only for its territorial gains but also for the retrieval of the True Cross, a venerated relic in Christian tradition. Heraclius also attempted to address the religious divisions within the empire, particularly the contentious Monophysite controversy. He sought to reconcile the differing Christian factions to bring about unity. His reign coincided with the rise of Islam, as the Prophet Muhammad began preaching in the Arabian Peninsula. This emergence of Islam would have far-reaching consequences, leading to the Arab-Byzantine Wars and a transformation of the Byzantine Empire's political landscape. Heraclius's later years were marked by health problems and governance challenges. He passed away in 641, leaving the throne to his sons. His rule remains a pivotal period in Byzantine history, marked by significant victories, religious reconciliation efforts, and the emergence of Islam as a geopolitical force.



398 Constans II AD 641-668. Struck ca. 651-654 AD. Constantinople. 2nd officina Solidus AV 20 mm, 4,39 g d N CONSTANTINVS PP AV, crowned facing bust, wearing chlamys, holding globus cruciger / VICTORIA-AVÇY B, cross potent set on three steps; CONOB in exergue. Very Fine DOC 19b; MIB 23; SB 956. Constans II, known as "the Bearded," was the Byzantine Emperor from 641 to 668. Born in 630, he became co-emperor with his father in 654 and later assumed sole rule in September 668 after his father's assassination. Constans faced challenges, including suppressing a military revolt in Sicily and navigating conflicts with the Muslim Caliphate. His religious policy attempted to find a middle ground between Orthodoxy and Monothelism, culminating in the Type of Constans decree in 648. During his reign, the Muslim Caliphate, under Umar, Uthman, and Mu'awiya I, launched invasions, leading to Arab raids and territorial losses for the Byzantines. Constans was the first emperor to visit Rome since the Western Roman Empire's fall in 476. In 663, he embarked on campaigns in Italy, attacking the Lombard Duchy of Benevento and visiting Rome for twelve days. Despite friendly relations with Pope Vitalian, Constans stripped buildings of their ornaments and bronze. His rule saw developments such as the creation of themes, military-administrative districts. However, Constans faced internal challenges, including opposition to Monothelism and suspicions regarding his younger brother Theodosius, whom he later had killed in 660. Constans II was assassinated in 668, leading to the succession of his son Constantine IV. His legacy includes diplomatic contacts with China, recorded in the Chinese dynastic histories of the Old and New Book of Tang, showcasing the Byzantine Empire's interactions with distant cultures.



399 Constans II, with Constantine IV AD 641-668. Constantinople. 2nd officina Solidus AV 19 mm, 4,44 g d N CONSTANTINVS C CONSTAN, crowned facing busts of Constans and Constantine, each wearing chlamys; cross above/ VICTORIA-AVÇY B, Cross potent set on three steps; CONOB in exergue. Good Very Fine DOC 27; MIB 27; Sear 961. Constantine IV, the eldest son of Constans II and Fausta, assumed the role of co-emperor with his father in 654 and later became the sole emperor in September 668 after news arrived of Constans II's assassination.

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400 Anastasius I AD 491-518. Constantinople Solidus AV 21 mm, 4,37 g D N ANASTASIVS P P AVG, pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing slightly to right, cross on helmet, holding spear and shield with horseman motif / VICTORIA AVGGG Δ, Victory standing facing, head to left, holding long jewelled cross; star in right field, CONOB in exergue. Very Fine Sear 5.

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401 Anastasius II Artemius AD 713-715. Constantinople. 9th officina Solidus AV 20 mm, 4,45 g d N ARTEMIOVS ANASTASIOVS MÇL, crowned facing bust, wearing chlamys, holding globus cruciger and akakia / VICTORIA-AVÇY Θ, cross potent set on three steps; CONOB in exergue. Good Very Fine DOC 2h; MIB 2; Füeg 2.1.1; Sear 1463. Artemios Anastasios, known as Anastasius II, ruled as the Byzantine Emperor from AD 713 to 715. His reign was marked by significant efforts to stabilize the empire, including the reversal of religious reforms initiated by his predecessor Philippicus. Anastasius reinstated Orthodoxy by appointing Germanus I as the patriarch of Constantinople, aiming to gain favor with Pope Constantine. Focused on fortifying the empire, Anastasius faced challenges from the Umayyad Caliphate. However, he was deposed by Theodosius III during a campaign against the Umayyads in 715. In 719, Anastasius launched a rebellion against Leo III in an attempt to reclaim the throne. Initially supported by Tervel of Bulgaria, the rebellion faltered when Anastasius failed to enter Constantinople. The Bulgarian forces, complying with Leo III's request, handed over Anastasius, leading to his execution in 719. Anastasius' reign saw efforts to restore religious orthodoxy, fortify the empire's defenses, and confront external threats, but his initiatives faced challenges, ultimately culminating in his downfall and execution. Historical accounts by Theophanes the Confessor and Patriarch Nikephoros provide insights into his tumultuous reign during the Byzantine "Twenty Years' Anarchy."

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402 Attributed to Basil II and Constantine VIII AD 976-1028. Constantinople Anonymous Follis Æ. Class A2 35 mm, 16,35 g + ΕΜΜΑΝΟΒΗΛ / IC - XC, facing bust of Christ Pantokrator / + ΙΗΣΥΣ / ΧΡΙΣΤΥΣ / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥ / ΒΑΣΙΛΕ, legend in four lines; decoration above and below. Very Fine Sear 1813.

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403 Attributed to Basil II and Constantine VIII AD 976-1028. Constantinople Anonymous Follis Æ. Class A3 32 mm, 10,35 g + ΕΜΜΑΝΟΒΗΛ / IC - XC, facing bust of Christ Pantokrator / + ΙΗΣΥΣ / ΧΡΙΣΤΥΣ / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥ / ΒΑΣΙΛΕ, legend in four lines; decoration above and below. Very Fine Sear 1818.

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404 Basil II Bulgaroktonos, with Constantine VIII AD 976-1025. Constantinople Histamenon Nomisma AV 20 mm, 4,07 g □ ΙΗΣ ΧΙΣ REX ΡΕΓΝΑΝΤΙΗμ, bust of Christ Pantokrator facing / □ ΒΑΣΙΛ C COΗΣΤΑΗΤ' Β Α, crowned facing facing half-length busts of Basil II, with short-beard and wearing loros on the left, and Constantine VIII, beardless and wearing chlamys on the right, holding between them long patriarchal cross. Good Very Fine, scratch on obverse Sear 1796.

500



405 Isaac I Comnenus AD 1057-1059. Constantinople Histamenon Nomisma AV 27 mm, 4,34 g □ ΙΗΙ ΧΙC RCX ΡΕΓΝΑΝΤΙΗμ, Christ Pantokrator enthroned facing on backless throne / □ ΙCΑΑΚΙΟC ΡΑCΙΑΕVC ΡΥΜ', Isaac standing facing, wearing crown, scale cuirass, corselet with pteryges, and military cloak, holding sword upright and resting other hand on sheath. Very Fine Sear 1843.

200



406 Michael VII Ducas AD 1071-1078. Constantinople Histamenon Nomisma EL 26 mm, 3,52 g Facing bust of Christ Pantokrator / +ΜΙΧΑΗΛ ΡΑCΙΑ Ο Δ, crowned facing bust of Michael, wearing loros, holding labarum and globus cruciger. Very Fine Sear 1868.

150



407 Andronicus II Palaeologus, with Michael IX AD 1282-1328. Constantinople Basilikon AR 21 mm, 1,96 g KVPI BOHΘEI, Christ, nimbate, seated facing on throne, wearing tunic and pallium, raising His right hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in His left / AVTOKPATO-PEC PMIAIΩN (sic), Andronicus II, on the left, standing facing, wearing crown with pendilia and loros and Michael IX, on the right, standing facing, wearing crown with pendilia and loros, holding between them labarum on shaft. Very Fine, holed DOC 513; Sear 2402. Andronikos II Palaiologos reigned as Byzantine emperor from 1282 to 1328, overseeing a period of decline for the empire. The Turks gradually conquered Byzantium's remaining Anatolian territories during his rule, and his later years were marked by conflict, including the First Palaiologan Civil War against his own grandson. Forced to abdicate in 1328, he retired to a monastery and died in 1332. During his reign, Andronikos II faced economic challenges, witnessing a significant depreciation of the Byzantine hyperpyron and financial difficulties. To address these issues, he raised taxes, reduced exemptions, and dismantled the Byzantine fleet in 1285, making the empire dependent on Venice and Genoa. Despite attempts to revive the navy in 1320, the efforts failed. Andronikos II pursued diplomatic solutions, marrying Yolanda of Montferrat after the death of his first wife. He also sought alliances through marriage, marrying off his son to Latin Empress Catherine I and his daughter to the King of Serbia. The decline of the Byzantine frontier in Asia Minor persisted, with the Turks making significant advances. The hiring of the Catalan Company to counter the Turks resulted in temporary successes but ended in conflict with Byzantium. The emperor faced challenges from Bulgaria, economic instability, and a civil war within his family. Andronikos II's reign is characterized by economic struggles, military setbacks, and internal strife, contributing to the overall decline of the Byzantine Empire. His forced abdication marked the end of his political career, concluding in monastic seclusion until his death in 1332.



408 Andronicus II Palaeologus, with Michael IX AD 1282-1328. Constantinople Basilikon AR 22 mm, 2,13 g KVPI BOHΘEI, Christ, nimbate, seated facing on throne, wearing tunic and pallium, raising His right hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in His left / AVTOKPATO-PEC PMIAIΩN (sic), Andronicus II, on the left, standing facing, wearing crown with pendilia and loros and Michael IX, on the right, standing facing, wearing crown with pendilia and loros, holding between them labarum on shaft. Good Very Fine DOC 513; Sear 2402. Michael IX Palaiologos was a Byzantine emperor who ruled jointly with his father, Andronikos II Palaiologos, from 1294 until his death 1320. Known for his moral character and courage in battle, Michael faced military challenges, including defeats against the Ottoman Empire and the Catalan Company. Despite his military prestige, his reign was marked by setbacks, attributed to unclear reasons such as his leadership, the state of the Byzantine army, or sheer bad luck. Michael's premature death at age 43 was partly attributed to grief over the accidental murder of his son Manuel by retainers of his older son Andronikos III. Despite military setbacks, Michael IX was remembered by the Byzantines as "the most pious lord" and "a true emperor in name and deeds." His birth, betrothals, marriage to Rita (Maria), and their four children, including Andronikos III, are detailed. Michael's private life involved conflicts with his stepmother Irene, who sought power for her own children. In his military endeavors, Michael faced challenges against the Ottoman Turks and the Catalan Company, experiencing defeats like the Battle of Skafida (1304) and the Battle of Apros (1305). His attempts to gather armies were hampered by issues with mercenaries and internal strife. The narrative explores Michael's struggles as a commander, arguing that broader military issues in the Byzantine Empire contributed to his difficulties. In his later years, Michael governed Thessalonica and worked to reconcile local conflicts. His death in 1320 was influenced by grief over the loss of his children. Michael IX was also known for his piety and devotion to the Church, overseeing the restoration of the Hagios Demetrios in Thessaloniki and issuing church decrees.



409 John V Palaeologus AD 1341-1391. Constantinople Basilikon AR 18 mm, 1,11 g Half-length figure of John V, holding cross potent and globus cruciger, above figure of Christ with hands outstretched / St. Demetrios, holding cross before chest, and Andronicus, orans, standing facing; Γ/O/A between. Very Fine DOC 944; LBC 846; Sear 2474 (Andronicus III). John V Palaiologos served as Byzantine emperor from 1341 to 1391, marked by political upheavals and the encroaching Ottoman threat. Ascending the throne at eight, his reign began with a civil war between his regent, John VI Kantakouzenos, and a rival council led by his mother Anna. The Black Death struck Constantinople from 1346 to 1349. In 1352, a second civil war erupted, leading to John V seeking help from Serbia against the Kantakouzenos alliance with the Ottoman Turks. The Turks prevailed, gaining their first European territory. Reclaiming power in 1354, John V faced challenges, including offending Hungary's King Louis I in 1366 and pressure from the Ottomans. He converted to Catholicism in 1369 but failed to unite the churches. Captured in Venice in 1369, he recognized Ottoman suzerainty in 1371. Despite brief usurpation by his grandson John VII in 1390, John V ordered the strengthening of Constantinople's Golden Gate. Forced to demolish it under Ottoman threat, he died on February 16, 1391, succeeded by his son Manuel, while his younger son ruled the Despotate of the Morea. His long reign saw the decline of imperial power amid civil strife and Ottoman advances.



410 Italy. Venice. Jacopo Contarini AD 1275-1280. Grosso AR 21 mm, 2,15 g IA 9 TARIN - S VENETI DVX, Doge and St. Marco standing facing, holding banner between them / Christ seated facing on throne, wearing nimbus crown, pallium, and colobium, triangle by leg to inner left and to right of waist, barred IC XC across field. Very Fine Paolucci 1. The title of Doge was used to refer to the elected chief magistrate and head of state of the Venetian Republic. The Doge was the highest-ranking official in the Venetian government, and his role was largely ceremonial and representative. The office of Doge was established in the early medieval period and existed from around 697 AD until the fall of the Venetian Republic in 1797. The Doge of Venice was elected for life, but the position did not hold absolute power. Instead, the Doge shared authority with other governmental bodies, such as the Venetian Senate and the Great Council, which represented the Venetian nobility. The Venetian Republic was known for its unique system of checks and balances, preventing any single individual from gaining too much power. Throughout its existence, the Venetian Republic had a long line of Doges, each contributing to the political, economic, and cultural achievements of the republic. They played crucial roles in maintaining Venice's maritime dominance, fostering trade and commerce, and creating a rich cultural legacy.



411 Italy. Venice. Giovanni Dandolo AD 1280-1289. Grosso AR 20 mm, 2,12 g • IO • DANDVL' • DVX • S • M • VENETI •, Doge and S. Marco standing facing, holding banner between them / Christ seated facing on throne, wearing nimbus crown, pallium, and colobium, annulet to left of right foot, barred IC XC across fields. Very Fine Paolucci 2. Giovanni Dandolo (circa AD 1280 - 1354) was a Venetian nobleman, but he is primarily known for his role as the 54th Doge of Venice. He ruled as Doge from 1280 until his death in 1289. Dandolo's family, the Dandolo family, was one of the prominent aristocratic families of the Republic of Venice. As Doge, Giovanni Dandolo faced significant challenges, including external conflicts with rival city-states and internal political issues. During his reign, Venice had strained relations with Genoa, leading to conflicts in the eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea regions. Dandolo's reign also saw some notable achievements. He introduced the first Venetian gold ducat, also called the Zecchino. Its weight was 3.56 grams and it was used until the end of the Venetian Republic.



412 Serbia. Stefan Uros II Milutin AD 1282-1321. Dinar AR 20 mm, 2,11 g S STEFAN VROSIVS / REX, Emperor, standing facing to left, receiving banner from St. Stefan, standing facing to right / IC - XC, enthroned Christ facing. Very Fine Jovanovic 7.1.1. Stefan Uroš II Milutin, commonly known as King Milutin, was a medieval Serbian ruler who reigned as the King of Serbia from 1282 to 1321. He was a member of the Nemanjić dynasty, one of the most significant and influential royal families in medieval Serbia. Milutin was the son of King Stefan Uroš I and Queen Helen of Anjou. He came to the throne after the death of his elder brother, Stefan Dragutin. Milutin faced several challenges during his reign, including internal conflicts within the Serbian nobility and external threats from neighboring states, especially the Byzantine Empire and the Bulgarian Empire. Despite these challenges, Milutin managed to expand the territory of Serbia and strengthen its political and economic position. He waged successful military campaigns against the Bulgarians and Byzantines, capturing important cities and regions in the Balkans. King Milutin is also known for his efforts to promote Christianity and strengthen the influence of the Serbian Orthodox Church. He founded and restored several monasteries, including the notable Gračanica Monastery, which is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Milutin's reign is considered a period of prosperity and cultural development for Serbia. He was known as a wise and just ruler who supported the arts, architecture, and literature. His reign is often regarded as the "Golden Age" of medieval Serbia. Milutin's legacy continued after his death, as his son, Stefan Uroš III Dečanski, succeeded him as the Serbian king. The Nemanjić dynasty continued to rule Serbia until the late 14th century when the empire began to decline due to internal conflicts and external invasions.



413 Germany. Berlin. Friedrich Wilhelm, the great Kurfürst AD 1640-1688. Guinea Ducat AV 1683 21 mm, 3,41 g FRID : WILH : D • G MBR • SR • I • AEL • LC • S, draped bust right / DEO DVCE 1683, the electoral three-master with dinghy right at sea, above left Wind from clouds propelling the ship. Very Fine, scratches and slightly bent Friedberg 2230.

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