

ANCIENT COINS OF ROME

THE TWELVE CAESARS COLLECTION

TWO THOUSAND YEARS OF HISTORY IN YOUR HANDS!

GOLD, SILVER, AND BRONZE COINS OF THE FIRST TWELVE CAESARS
OF THE ANCIENT ROMAN EMPIRE ALL PROFESSIONALLY GRADED BY NCC.



In all great civilizations, ideas are born from strife and heartache. In ancient Rome, rivaling philosophies led to civil wars, political and military conquests, and assassinations that resulted in one of the greatest empires the world has ever seen.

Famed Roman citizen and historian Suetonius's famous work *De Vita Caesarum*, or *The Twelve Caesars*, chronicles the biographies of the Roman Empire's first twelve Caesars, capturing forever the lives of the founding men who began an empire that reigned over a golden age of human civilization.

From narcissistic to sadistic, from humble to kind, their legacies live on today. Now there is an opportunity to own tangible artifacts direct from their golden age. Much of what we know about our world and its origins is because of coinage, and there is truly no better way to begin your collection than with the Twelve Caesars.

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**Welcome to Austin Rare Coins & Bullion located in Austin, Texas.
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As a leader in the precious metals and rare coin industry we carry everything from gold and silver bullion all the way up to the finest U.S. rare coins and ancient coins.

- 26 Years of Experience
- Over One Billion Dollars in Trusted Transactions
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Since we started in 1989 our highly-trained, professional staff has worked with tens of thousands of clients who are searching for guidance and reliable advice when it comes to owning physical precious metals.

Our reputation is built on trust. Many of our clients refer their families and friends to us. We understand the need for reliable information and personalized one-on-one service. That is exactly what you can expect when you contact our firm.

Our wide selection of high-quality products, great prices, and unmatched service has allowed us to maintain a perfect A+ ranking with the Better Business Bureau. In addition, our principals are members of the American Numismatic Association and the Texas Numismatic Association. At Austin Rare Coins, Inc. We have the credentials and reputation as a professional firm you can depend on for fairness and honesty.

Reasons To Own Certified Ancient Coins

A detailed, sepia-toned historical map of Rome, Italy, serves as the background for the central text. The map shows the city's layout, including the Tiber River, the Colosseum, and various ancient ruins. A banner at the top left of the map reads "ROMA.".

A Growing Market

•

Fixed Supplies

•

Long-Term Value

•

Historical Importance

•

A Delight to Own

•

Holding History In your Hands

•

Enjoy The Hobby Of Kings

THE SETS

The Twelve Caesar Gold Aureus Legacy Set

- 2,000 years of tangible history
- 99% pure gold
- Professionally certified by NGC



The Twelve Caesar Bronze and Silver Collector's Set

- The ultimate collector's set
- Hand-picked for condition, rarity, and value
- Professionally certified by NGC



The King of Diamonds. The Rise of an Empire.

By middle school most children have heard the name Julius Caesar. The self-proclaimed Dictator had ideas well ahead of his time, and much of what he did and did not do is the foundation for the way societies are run to this day. He rose to power quickly and extended the reach of the Roman world. At a time when armies were paid primarily in gold and land, he amassed one of the most loyal and successful armies the world had ever seen. Some feared his immense popularity and king-like behavior would eventually make him too powerful and feared for the good of Rome. A plot was hatched by a group of angry Senators, led by Cassius and Brutus, to assassinate Julius. The plot was famously successful on the Ides of March 44 BC. Civil war ensued, and the rulers who followed Julius Caesar forever shaped the course of Rome and western civilization as we know it. Julius Caesar was the first Roman Emperor to be deified as a God. The King of Diamonds in a deck of playing cards symbolizes him. The month of July is also named for him. Because of Julius Caesar's fame, his coins are always in high demand. His coppers are rare, and though his silver is available, they are challenging in high grade. Caesar's gold is extremely difficult to find, and owning an example is one of the most prestigious accomplishments for a collector of history.

The iconic gold aureus, struck under Julius Caesar

Gold aureus

In a stunning AU★ with perfect strike and surface.



Silver denarius

Graded AU by NGC with a perfect strike.



“Have I played the part well? Then, applaud as I exit.”

Such were the dying words of Emperor Augustus as he lay dying in 14 AD after ruling over one of the most peaceful and stable periods in Roman history compared with the previous period of civil war after Julius Caesar's assassination. August: “Inspiring reverence or admiration, of supreme dignity or grandeur.” He was quite productive in expanding the Roman Empire and strengthening its political infrastructure. He developed a number of important public works, including a standing army, a police force, a courier system, a fire department and an improved network of roads. Today the month of August is named after him. Augustus struck coins in abundance, yet few have survived in high grade. As it is impossible to understand politics without understanding Augustus, the coins of his empire are routinely collected and summarily very hard to find. A number of design types were produced under his rule, inspiring collectors to find them all.

Gold aureus

From the Lugdunum mint graded VF.



Silver denarius

Graded AU Fine Style.

Gold aureus
In a stunning AU★
with perfect strike.



Silver denarius
‘Tribute Penny’ graded XF with
phenomenal surfaces.



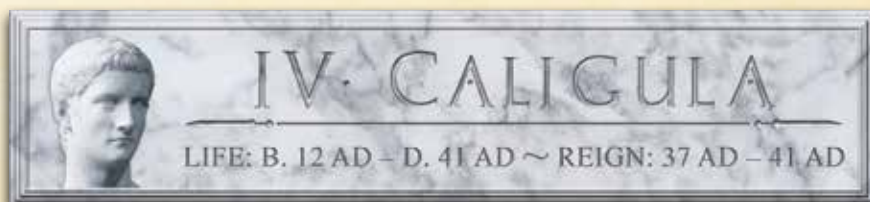
Ruler in the Time of Christ and His Crucifixion.

Tiberius was the stepson of Augustus and was known as a dark and reclusive ruler. He is most famous for reigning during the time of Christ's crucifixion. He is known for his conservative growth of the Empire, generally avoiding smaller military confrontations with neighboring tyrants. The coinage of Tiberius has become synonymous with the Bible, as it is believed by many that the silver denarius of Tiberius, The Biblical Tribute Penny, was the motivation for the “Render unto Caesar...” speech from the King James Version of the Gospel. Tiberius struck relatively few portrait bronzes, but issued silver and gold in large quantities. In 37 AD he fell ill and at word that he wasn't dying fast enough, it is believed by some that he was finished off by Caligula. Crowds are reported to have rejoiced at word of his death. Demand is fueled by his notoriety as an emperor, as well as because more than two billion Christians around the world are at least somewhat familiar with his reign during the time of Christ.

Gold aureus
Ultra-rare. Graded VF.



BRONZE As
Graded XF with a perfect strike.



An Unquenchable Thirst for Power and the First Living God.

Caligula was the great-nephew of Tiberius and is believed by some to have even finished off Tiberius while he was on his deathbed, although it's often refuted that he couldn't follow through with it. The first six months of his reign started uneventful and moderate, but his ego quickly took hold and an unquenchable thirst for power and excessive personal pleasures ensued. Although claiming oneself as a God was generally frowned upon by anyone in power, Caligula became so infatuated with himself that he forced many to worship him as a living God. He was ultimately assassinated by the Praetorian Guard and a group of Senators.

Caligula's coins are exceedingly rare and are always in high demand. In fact, it is the major stumbling block for most collectors in assembling this set and are seldom made available.



He Came. He Saw. He Conquered.

Claudius was nephew to Caligula and is well thought to have been involved in a broad conspiracy to murder Caligula since he left the scene of the crime just before it began. However, after Caligula's wife and daughter were murdered he knew the conspirators were after him as well. He began the largest expansion of the Empire since the time of Augustus and began the conquest of the British Isles. Historical accounts depict him as a well-rounded Emperor. His public works, military efforts, and presence at public trials trump the accounts of some historians of the bloodthirsty and cruel Gladiator patron. Ambiguity about his death remains. Some historians believe he was poisoned while others believe he died of old age. Much like Caligula, the coins of Claudius are always in demand. His silver and gold coins are rare and hard to find; thus, most buyers seek portrait bronzes for their collection.

Gold aureus

Graded XF with portrait facing right.



BRONZE As

Graded Choice XF Fine Style.



Did He Burn Rome to the Ground? A Tyrant Known for His Unmatched Cruelty and Extravagance.

The legend of Nero playing the fiddle during the burning of Rome is refuted historically given the fiddle did not exist in his era, but is a great metaphor for many Romans' belief that he caused the "Great Fire of Rome" that brought the city to its knees in order to clear land for his planned palace, the Domus Aurea. The adopted son of Claudius, he is known for his unmatched cruelty, often having Christians dipped in oil and having them burned alive in his garden for light in the dark hours of the night. He began the First Roman-Jewish War that ultimately destroyed the Second Temple of Jerusalem. His suicide in 68 AD plunged the Empire into a dark period known as the Year of the Four Emperors. Nero was extremely narcissistic and had his coinage struck vastly throughout the empire, making copper, silver and gold coins of his reign among the most available of the Twelve Caesars. Even so, they are always in high demand due to his infamy.

Gold aureus

Graded XF Fine Style.



Silver denarius

Graded Choice VF.

Gold aureus

Ultra-rare in Choice VF Fine Style.



The First Emperor of the “Year of the Four Emperors”.

The Year of the Four Emperors was actually a time lasting from early 68 AD to late 69 AD, and Galba was the first Emperor during this time of civil war. Although he had good intentions to restore state finances, the way he went about doing it enraged the populace and he was assassinated in 69 AD by the bribed Praetorian Guards at the request of Otho, who succeeded him. He was a man of great wealth and was unconnected by birth with any of the Caesars. He was prophesied as early as the time of Augustus to be a man of future eminence in the Empire. Only ruling for seven months, he issued many coins. You can find his silver denarii with little difficulty, but collectors know his bronze and gold examples are a prize.



Silver denarius
VF Fine Style with perfect surface.

Gold aureus

Ultra-rare graded VF with perfect strike.



“It is far more just to perish one for all, than many for one.”

Otho spoke these words to his army before retiring to his study the night before he committed suicide by stabbing himself with a dagger. This is a takeaway from other emperors who were too narcissistic to have done such a thing, caring about themselves more than their people. Otho is a complex figure that history has placed in a kinder light after his death. His initial rise to power was by capitalizing on Galba's refusal to honor his offer to pay the Praetorian Guards with gold, which led to Galba's assassination. As with Galba, the coinage of Otho presents a sincere challenge to the astute collector, and all coins issued in his name are in very high demand. This civil war emperor struck no Imperial bronzes, so collectors must be satisfied with either a silver denarius or a gold aureus. His denarii are quite scarce, and his aurei are extremely difficult to find. He served for just three months as the second emperor of the Year of the Four Emperors.



Silver denarius
Choice VF with perfect strike.



“Yet I was once your Emperor.” The Drunken Glutton Who Lost His Head.

Vitellius served for eight months as the third emperor of the Year of the Four Emperors. His rise from politician and army commander to Emperor was swift, given the rash and unstable state of Rome in civil war. Known as an extravagant glutton, under his rule Rome became the bizarre scene of excessive violence in the streets and lavish feasts. While in the act of submitting his resignation as Emperor, he was murdered by Vespasian's troops and his head was paraded around Rome. His last words were “Yet I was once your Emperor.” Vitellius managed to produce a sizable coinage in a short period. Additionally, he resumed the striking of bronzes. Though available, his coins are difficult to find in high grade.

Gold aureus

Graded Choice XF with perfect strike.



Silver denarius

Graded Choice VF.



The Founder of the Flavian Dynasty, Ended the Civil War and Brought About a Time of Peace for 27 Years.

He hailed from an equestrian family with political ties. As a military commander, he had immense success during the First Jewish-Roman War and in Britain. He was responsible for several important architectural projects, most notably the beginning of construction on the Roman Colosseum (also called the Flavian Amphitheater), as Vespasian had a love for gladiatorial games. Coins struck during his reign served as propaganda throughout the Empire, depicting images of military victory and peace. He died of intestinal illness after a long and successful career as Emperor. In the process of restoring prosperity to the Empire, Vespasian struck a great many coins in gold, silver, and copper. We are fortunate that excellent examples can be acquired at relatively modest prices.

Gold aureus

Graded Choice VF with perfect strike.



Silver denarius

Graded AU.

Gold aureus
Graded XF.



The First Son of a 'Twelve Caesar' He Completed the Roman Colosseum, a Seventh Wonder of the World.

In 2007 a new list of the Seven Wonders of the World was created, adding the Colosseum in Rome to the list for the first time. Begun under his father, the Colosseum was completed under Titus. This landmark tells the story of the days of the gladiator and is frequented by millions of visitors annually. It is today one of the most iconic global landmarks and the grand symbol of ancient Rome. Titus was the son of Vespasian and was the first son of a 'Twelve Caesar' to rule. As the second emperor of the Flavian Dynasty, Titus gained immense notoriety as a military commander serving under his father in the First Jewish-Roman War. After ruling for just two short years, Titus fell ill and died ostensibly of natural causes. Despite his short reign as emperor, Titus struck many coins as Caesar under his father, which makes it possible to acquire a gold, silver, or copper coin of this good-natured emperor at a reasonable price.



Silver denarius
Graded Choice VF.

Gold aureus
Graded Choice XF.



Paranoid Younger Brother of Titus and Last of the Flavian Emperors.

He restored the economy by revaluing Roman coinage, rebuilding the city of Rome, and fortifying the border defenses of the Empire. He felt immense envy towards his older brother, Titus, and had great desire to conquer Germany in an effort to achieve military fame, as in the end Titus had received all the glory for the successes in Judea. Domitian became deeply paranoid after learning of an astrological prediction about his death at "approximately noon", and would become extremely reclusive around this time each day. He is said to have had a dream just days before his assassination in which the goddess Minerva came to him and told him she could no longer protect him. Of all the Twelve Caesars coinages, those of Domitian are the most readily available. His silver denarii represents the best value; nice examples of his gold and copper coins are surprisingly hard to find.



Silver denarius
Graded Choice XF with perfect strike.

NGC Census / Population Report

The following population figures reflect the number of gold Twelve Caesars coins graded by Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC) as of July 10, 2016. For convenience, combined populations are listed by adjectival grade range.

Twelve Caesars Gold Aureus Population Figures — as of August 2024

Description	Total Graded	Below Fine	Fine CH F	Very F CH VF	Ext.Fine CH XF	About Unc.	Choice AU	Mint State	Choice MS	Gem MS
Julius Caesar, d.44 BC	346	6	25	38	100	56	31	11	5	0
Augustus, 27 BC-AD 14	273	14	36	91	81	36	13	2	0	0
Tiberius, AD 14-37	492	8	71	149	109	69	46	36	3	1
Caligula, AD 37-41	69	1	13	28	18	6	2	1	0	0
Claudius, AD 41-54	198	5	34	64	53	23	8	9	3	0
Nero, AD 54-68	634	105	191	158	131	36	12	1	0	0
Galba, AD 68-69	104	8	32	46	12	6	0	0	0	0
Otho, AD 69	67	0	24	30	9	4	0	0	0	0
Vitellius, AD 69	100	3	29	36	22	9	0	1	0	0
Vespasian, AD 69-79	369	20	138	92	66	27	19	5	2	0
Titus, AD 79-81	259	11	87	75	36	30	13	7	0	0
Domitian, AD 81-96	243	20	58	48	54	30	28	4	1	0

Ten Year Price Performance

Average Prices Realized Over Ten Years

Scarce - Julius Caesar (12 C. #1) & Tiberius (#3)

Grade	2006	2016	Overall Ten Year Growth %
Very Fine	\$2,650	\$6,975	163%
Extra Fine	\$4,400	\$11,968	172%
About Uncirculated	\$7,000	\$19,390	177%
Average growth for all Scarce, all grades*:			170%

Rare - Claudius (#5), Nero (#6), Vespasian (#10), Titus (#11), Domitian (#12)

Grade	2006	2016	Overall Ten Year Growth %
Very Fine	\$2,900	\$8,295	186%
Extra Fine	\$4,700	\$13,348	184%
About Uncirculated	\$10,600	\$30,210	185%
Average growth for all Rare, all grades*:			185%

Ultra Rare - Augustus (#2), Caligula (#4), Galba (#7), Otho (#8), Vitellius (#9)

Grade	2006	2016	Overall Ten Year Growth %
Very Fine	\$7,500	\$20,925	179%
Extra Fine	\$22,950	\$64,030	179%
About Uncirculated	\$44,500	\$127,270	186%
Average growth for all Ultra Rare, all grades*:			181%

Overall Average Ten Year Growth for ALL Gold Twelve Caesars: **179%**

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STRUCK UNDER
JULIUS CAESAR



GOLD AUREUS OF TIBERIUS



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