

## Greek Coins

Greek coinage is a very wide field of study embracing most of the non-Roman coinage of the ancient world struck between the straits of Gibraltar and North West India. These coins represent different stages of coinage in Ancient Greece. There is a coin from the southern Italy states, a coin from classical Athens and two coins from the Hellenistic kingdoms.



This coin was issued in the city of Katane which is on the east coast of Sicily. This shows the head of Apollo in superb form. He was one of the 12 great Gods of Greek religion. He was the youthful God of music, of ritual purity and oracles and as the God Phoebus Apollo he is associated with the sun. The engraving around the head is that of the engraver Herakleidas. The reverse of the coin is a victorious Quadriga, or four horse chariot. There are galloping horses and victory hovering above ready to crown the charioteer. The original was a silver Tetradrachm c405.



This coin is a silver tetradrachm which shows the head of Athena one side and the owl on the other. The first three letters by the side of the owl show the origin as Athens and these types of coins were referred to as characteristically as "owls".

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This coin shows Zeus for the first time on a Macedonian coin. The reverse is a boy jockey carrying a palm of victory (Philip II the King of Macedon 359 - 336 had a horse that had been successful in the Olympic games at 356).



This is a reproduction of a Silver Tetradrachm showing Alexander the great (336 - 323) and Athena seated on the reverse. This coin is significant as one of the best known portraits of Alexander. Commissioned after his death by Lysimachus who he'd been a close associate at Alexander's it shows the ram's horn of Zeus Ammon. Alexander was son of Philip of Macedon and was responsible for leading the Macedonians and Greeks across Asia as far as the Punjab and introducing elements of Greek culture to large areas of central and western Asia. In ten years Alexander had created an empire and conquered a large swathe of Persia.



