



VAT-FREE
INVESTMENT GOLD



FRENCH NAPOLEON / ROUSTER / ANGEL 20 franc gold coin



French Napoleon III 20 franc gold coin

Minted: 1852 - 1870

Napoleon III (1808-1873) was the nephew of Napoleon Bonaparte and Emperor of France from 1852 to 1870. He came to power by election when the Revolution of 1848 brought down Louis Philippe of Orleans. France's defeat in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870 led to Napoleon III's exile and the establishment of the Third Republic. This government remained in effect until World War II. France currently operates under The Fifth Republic.

Napoleon gold coins- were first minted in 1803 - Napoleon I's reign as First Consul. The earliest such coins were dated ANXI, AN12, AN13, and AN14. When the design was changed in 1806, the gold coin exhibited the date in Arabic Numerals. Napoleon III French 20 Francs were minted between 1852 and 1870.

The French 20 Franc Napoleon III gold coins had three different designs during their production from 1852-1870, that differed by legend writing designs and modifications of Napoleons' portraits, and which are described below.

- 1852 (Version I)
- 1853-60 (Version II)
- 1861-70 (Version III)

Mints: Paris (Version I), Lyon, Paris, Strasbourg (Version II); Paris, Strasbourg (Version III)

Version I

The obverse (front) of the gold coin features a bust portrait of Napoleon - his name written as 'LOUIS-NAPOLEON BONAPARTE'

The reverse (back) the legend is 'REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE' and shows the value of the coin (20 Francs) and the date (1852) surrounded by wreaths.

Version II

This second Napoleon III French 20 Franc is very similar to the first, with two main differences. The name of the ruler written on this obverse says 'NAPOLEON III' along with the title 'EMPEREUR.'

The main difference on the reverse is that the nation is referred to as 'EMPIRE FRANCAIS'

Version III

The third Napoleon III design came into existence in 1861. Featuring a coat of arms and a wreath-wearing Napoleon III, lasted till 1870.



French Angel 20 franc gold coin

Minted: 1871 - 1898

The French Angel characterizes the ideals of the French Revolution - the Spirit of France. A rooster symbolizing Vigilance appears next to the Angel. The legend "Liberte Egalite Fraternite" appears on the reverse along with the date.



French 20 Francs Rooster

Minted: 1898-1914; 1921*; 1951-1960*

*All coins minted after 1914 were re- struck with dates from 1898-1914.

The original mint of French 20 Francs Rooster gold coins occurred between 1898 and 1914, with surviving coins from the initial year considered rare. Coins with dates from 1907-1914 were officially re-struck at the Paris Mint in 1921 and again from 1951-1960.

The French 20 Francs Rooster is one of the most popular of European Gold Coins. Each coin contains almost a fifth of an ounce (0.1867) of pure gold.

The front of the French 20 Franc Rooster features the head of the Third Republic surrounded by the words 'REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE.'

The reverse depicts a rooster along with the denomination, the date, and the words 'LIBERTE ' EGALITE ' FRATERNITE'. This phrase, which translates to 'freedom, equality, fraternity', became a guiding principle during the French Revolution against Louis XVI.