

Ayn Gold News



READERS QUESTIONS


WHAT SHOULD I BUY - COINS OR BULLION BARS?


Both gold and silver are commonly sold at a **premium** above spot price. Bars normally carry a lower premium than coins, while coins normally carry a lower premium than jewellery. Also the bigger the bullion bar the lower the premium.

In the UK gold bullion bars are normally sold without VAT and some (but not all) coins are also VAT free (krugerrand but not dinars). However, both silver coins and silver bullion carry VAT.

What you should buy depends on your budget, your intention in buying (gift, investment etc), whether you foresee a possible future need to dispose of them quickly (there are always more potential buyers for smaller items), where you intend to keep the items and perhaps most importantly, your own personal preference.

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World Money Fair in Berlin

Last month I was pleased to finally be able to attend the World Money Fair (WMF) in Berlin. It's a show that highlights what's new in the refining, minting and numismatic industries. From new mining techniques, security issues and of course the "Coin of the Year" awards.

I was particularly impressed with the hologram technologies being used by the Polish and Khazakstani Mints in particular. These are not only used for security and identification purposes but also for some stunningly beautiful effects. In fact talking of beauty, the Gold Coin of the Year Award went to the South African minted 1 oz Gold Rhino coin (see pic), while the Most Popular award went to a 10 euro Silver coin from the Basilisk of Vienna, featuring a legendary monstrous creature that was part snake, part toad and part cockerel.



What this really signifies, and what the show confirmed, is that there continues to be an absolutely huge demand for both bullion and artistic coins from both within the UK and around the world.

Perhaps most significant for Ayn Gold is the deal we managed to seal a deal which allows us to offer both our Dealers and our Investors a range of Silver 1oz coins at very competitive prices. These include American Gold Eagles, Austrian Philharmonics, British Britannias and also a limited supply of Chinese

Silver Pandas. Perhaps most impressive are the limited edition Australian Silver Koalas (pictured). These are a limited edition produced especially for the Berlin show and carry the "Berlin Bear" symbol as well as all the other popular markings.



This deal also means that once we exhaust our current supplies we will no longer be stocking silver bullion bars of below 100 grams. However we will continue to order them in, if specifically requested.

25 kilo Gold Bars goes Walk-About

This is not quite the scandalous headline it seems, but we did manage to lay our hands (for all of about 90 seconds) on this 25kg bar of gold worth around £659,000 at today's spot price. In vain we tried to convince them that we needed it as a memento for our trip but they wouldn't have it.

