

# COINS OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE

*Certificate of Authenticity*

## CONSTANTINOPLE COMMEMORATIVE

**AD 330 - 346**

This genuine Roman coin was minted to commemorate a city that was one of the world's great capitals. When emperor Constantine became head of the whole Roman Empire he decided to make Byzantium his capital and rename it Constantinople. The town was greatly enlarged into a city and was officially inaugurated on 11th May 330. Constantine's choice of capital had profound effects upon the Roman Empire and moved its power base eastward. Constantinople became the centre for imperial and religious power, and it gathered huge wealth which brought architectural and cultural beauty to the premier city of the Western world. Constantinople became the meeting place for western and eastern cultures, and Oriental and Occidental arts and architecture melded into new styles and expressions. In the 14th century Constantinople came within the Ottoman Empire and is now Istanbul in modern Turkey.



