

# Certificate of Authenticity

*We guarantee that the coin illustrated is genuine and is as described:*



**Coin Type:** ANCIENT GREEK  
**Denomination:** NOMOS  
**Ruler:** GREEK - CITY STATES  
**Mint:** TARENTUM  
**Country:** CALABRIA  
**(Top of the inside heel part of ancient Italy)**

**Date:** CIRCA 302 - 231 B.C.  
**Metal:** SILVER  
**Framing:** 18 KT  
**13 Diamonds:** .31 CT  
**65 Blue Topaz:** 5.2 CT  
**Certificate Number:** 20138

## THE FAMOUS BOY ON A DOLPHIN COIN

**Obverse:** Naked horseman or youth on horse.

**Reverse:** TAPAS below, Taras astride a dolphin.

The reference used for this coin is The Collection of Tarentine Coins formed by M. P. Vlasto.

Numerous Greek Colonies were established in southern Italy in the centuries preceding the introduction of coinage, the earliest foundations dating from the 8<sup>th</sup> Century B. C. The first coins appeared circa 530 B. C. and were of the curious brockage-type fabric, the obverse design being repeated, more or less exactly on the reverse though concave instead of in relief. It has been suggested that the invention of this unique method of coin production could have been the brainchild of no less a celebrity than the famous Samian mathematician Pythagoras, who migrated to Italy at about this time. Taras was known to the Romans as Tarentum.

In this ancient tale, Taras, the young son of Poseidon, is aboard a ship that sinks in a raging storm. Menacing sharks circle the helpless youth and when all seemed lost, the man-eating threats flee because of the swift attacking pod of dolphins, which have come to the rescue. According to ancient legend, Taras was put safely ashore in southern Italy where he subsequently founded the city of Tarentum.

Numismatic Authenticator

Dave Wagner, American Numismatic Association Member #172893

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HISTORICAL JEWELRY