

Tiny Treasures from My Travels

Hi everyone! It's me, Sarah, your favorite travel blogger and self-proclaimed currency collector! One of my favorite hobbies while traveling is collecting coins from the different countries I visit. Every time I visit a new place, I make sure to grab a few coins as souvenirs. It's not just about the money itself, but the stories and memories behind them.

I've traveled to almost every continent, and the variety of currencies I've come across is fascinating. From the *euro* in Europe to the *yen* in Japan, each coin tells a little bit about the country's culture and history. For example, in Japan, many of their coins have holes in the middle, which is quite different from the coins I'm used to back home. The Japanese *yen* coins also feature images of cherry blossoms, which symbolize beauty and the arrival of spring. It's a simple yet beautiful design that reflects a lot about Japanese culture.

In Africa, I had the chance to collect coins from South Africa, which uses the *rand*. Some of the coins there feature images of the famous "Big Five" animals: lions, elephants, rhinos, leopards, and buffalos. It was amazing to see how much wildlife is represented in their currency. In contrast, when I visited Kenya, their coins had images of political figures, showing a different side of the country's history.

Of course, traveling with different currencies can be a bit tricky. In South America, I had to learn how to use the Argentine *peso*, which was a little confusing at first because of the exchange rate. The rate can change from day to day, so it's important to check how much your money is worth before exchanging it. I usually use a currency converter app to make sure I get a good deal. One tip: always keep an eye on the rates, and try to exchange money when the rate is in your favor!

In Australia, I fell in love with the colorful coins featuring kangaroos and the iconic platypus. They even have a silver coin with Queen Elizabeth II on it, which reminded me of how Australia's history is tied to the British monarchy.

One of the most exotic coins I've collected came from the Pacific Islands, where I got a coin from Fiji. It had a beautiful image of a sailboat called a *drua*, which is a traditional Fijian canoe. It was a unique reminder of the island's seafaring history.

Collecting coins from around the world has not only helped me remember my trips but also taught me a lot about the countries I've visited. Each coin is a little piece of history, art, and culture. So, the next time you're traveling, don't forget to keep an eye out for some unique coins to add to your own collection!

Decide whether the following sentences are (A) true, (B) false, or (C) the text does not say.

1. Sarah collects coins from every country she visits.
2. Japanese yen coins either have holes in the middle or pictures of traditional Japanese symbols.
3. South African coins feature images of wild animals like lions and elephants.
4. In Kenya, Sarah collected coins that had images of wildlife.
5. The Argentine peso is one of the most stable currencies in South America.
6. Sarah exchanges her money for the local currency as soon as she arrives in the country.
7. Sarah prefers the Australian coins with animals over the ones with Queen Elizabeth II.
8. In Fiji, Sarah collected a coin with an image of a traditional boat.
9. Sarah never collects banknotes, only coins.
10. Sarah has been traveling for over 20 years.