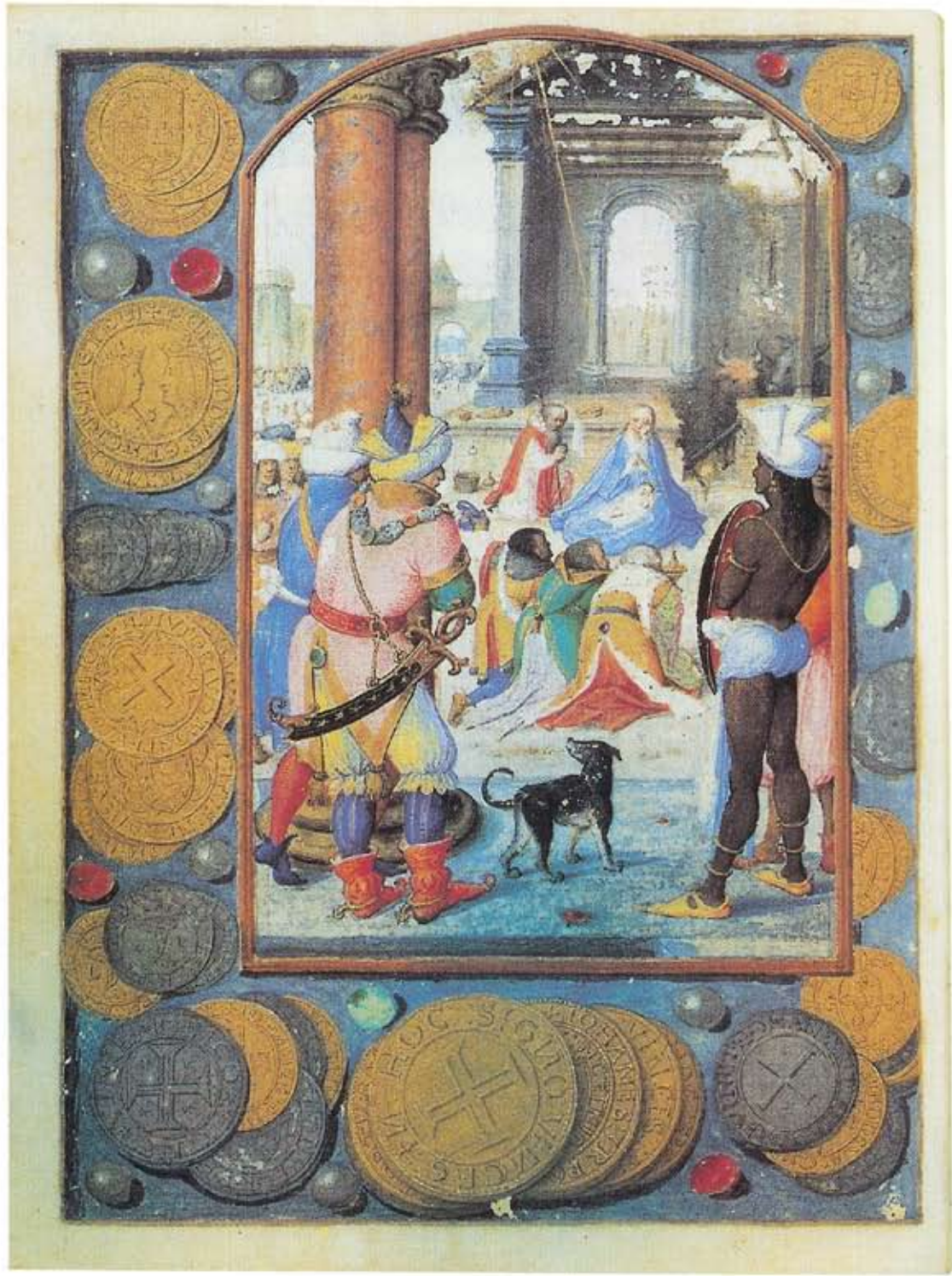


Introducing...

PORTUGAL

and the
OPENING UP OF THE WORLD



**Commemorative coin programme
1987-2001**

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**A Era dourada
dos Descobrimentos Portugueses.**

**Programa numismático oficial
1987-2001**

**La Edad de Oro
de los Descubrimientos Portugueses.**

**Programa numismático oficial
1987-2001**

**L'Age d'Or
des Découvertes Portugaises.**

**Programme officiel des monnaies commémoratives
1987-2001**

**Das goldene Zeitalter
der Portugiesischen Entdeckungen.**

**Offizielles Gedenkmünzen-Programm
1987-2001**

**The Golden Era
of the Portuguese Discoveries.**

**Official Commemorative Coin Programme
1987-2001**

**Het Gouden Tijdperk
van de Portugese Ontdekkingen.**

**Officieel herdenkingsmuntenprogramma
1987-2001**

De Portugisiska upptäckernas gullene era.

**Officiellt minnesmyntprogram
1987-2001**

MAN AND THE AGE OF EXPLORATION

Until the end of this century, Portugal, Europe and the World will be commemorating some of the most important landmarks of maritime explorations and voyages of discovery that were to have a profound impact on the life of Mankind.

The 15th-and 16th-century sea voyages and discoveries heralded a new era in world history — the so called Modern Age — and rank as one of history's two or three most important phenomena in terms of their effect on the modern world.

In the course of two centuries, from about 1420 to 1620, the urge to find new lands beyond Europe and a sea passage to southern Asia led to an unprecedented increase in knowledge about our planet. Discovery led to settlement and colonization; it brought new wealth, new products, new opportunities, new problems, new sciences, new ways of thinking, and it led to the creation of new nations.

THE PORTUGUESE VOYAGES OF DISCOVERY

There were many reasons why the great discoveries of the 15th and 16th centuries were European achievements and not Chinese or Arab.

It would be Europe's peculiar combination of religious zeal, hard-headed acquisitiveness and seafaring expertise that provided the mixture of motivation and technical ability to realize the great voyages of discovery.

These qualities were common to several European Countries, but because of additional geographic and historic factors, one country in particular pioneered the ocean routes — **Portugal**.

In less than a century, the Portuguese Maritime Discoveries introduced Europe to two thirds of the world and brought the world to Europe. They circumnavigated Africa and Asia. They dispersed across the whole of the Atlantic and Indian ocean.

They split the American continent with Spain.

With these Discoveries, they came to know an enormous diversity of lands, languages, economies, civilizations and ways of thinking: African, Brazilian, Arabian, Indian, Burmese, Siamese, Malay, Javanese, Dai Vietnamese, Chinese, Japanese.

«Opening up the world» is an expression that best sums up Portugal's gift to the rest of Humanity.

Now, almost six hundred years after the beginning of the Great Portuguese Voyages of Discovery, they are being commemorated with dignity and prominence.

COINS OF DISCOVERY

Portugal embarked on a 15 year coinage programme in 1987 with the launch of an official coin programme marking «THE GOLDEN ERA OF THE PORTUGUESE DISCOVERIES.»

Known as the «Coins of Discovery» series, this ambitious programme calls for 10 series of 4 coins each to be issued from 1987 to 2001, commemorating Portugal's landmark voyages of maritime exploration and discovery during the 15th and 16th centuries and the Portuguese contribution to other decisive events in world history's Age of Exploration.

Each commemorative coin series will be accompanied by specially prepared printed reference material to be offered free — books and reproduction of old maps in full colour — which will tell the story of the almost unbelievable courage, magnificent seamanship, ingenuity and skill of the Portuguese explorers in detail and the significance of their discoveries to the rest of the world.

A UNIQUE NUMISMATIC PROGRAMME

This series of commemorative coins is unique in the annals of numismatics. Never before has a country offered such a comprehensive series of coins on one unified theme in order to record and preserve an important aspect of its heritage. The legal tender coins are being struck in cupronickel, silver, gold, palladium and platinum, for both domestic circulation and worldwide acquisition by collectors.

Coin designs will feature both the historic Portuguese ships that once traversed the globe and the men whose names evoke the Golden Age of Discovery: Prince Henry «The Navigator», King John II, Diogo Cão, Bartolomeu Dias, Columbus, Vasco da Gama, Pedro Alvares Cabral, João Rodrigues Cabrilho, Fernão Mendes Pinto, Afonso de Albuquerque, Ferdinand Magellan, and many others.



**Den gyldene era
for de Portugisiske opdagelsesrejser.**

**Officielle mindemont udgivelser
1987-2001**

**L'Era d'Oro
delle Scoperte Portoghesi.**

**Programma numismatico ufficiale
1987-2001**

**ポルトガル発見最盛期シリーズ
公式記念貨企画
1987-2001**

**葡萄牙拓疆的黄金纪元
紀念幣系列
1987—2001**

**포르투갈 지리상 발견의 황금기
공식 기념주화 시리즈
1987-2001**

**Penemuan Zaman Kegemilangan Portugis
Rancangan Syiling**

**Peringatan Rasmii
1987-2001**

**«Portugalin Löytöretkien
Kultaisen Aikakauden**

**Virallinen Juhlarahaohjelma
1987-2001**



**SERIES I (1987-1988):
The Dawn of the Age of Discovery-Africa Unveiled**

- Coin 1 : Beyond the barrier of fear (Cape Bojador, 1434)
- Coin 2 : Along the unknown coast of Africa (River Gambia, 1446)
- Coin 3 : Farther and farther South they sailed (South West Africa, Namibia, 1486)
- Coin 4 : Until the Great Cape was doubled (Cape of Good Hope, 1488)

**SERIES II (1898-1990):
The Conquest of the Atlantic**

- Coin 5 : Encounter on the Fortunate Isles (Canaries, 1336/1479)
- Coin 6 : The Pearl of the Atlantic (Madeira, 1420)
- Coin 7 : A bold step Westwards (The Azores, 1427/1452)
- Coin 8 : Mapping the world through the stars (Celestial navigation, 1455/1485)

**SERIES III (1991-1992):
The Discovery of America**

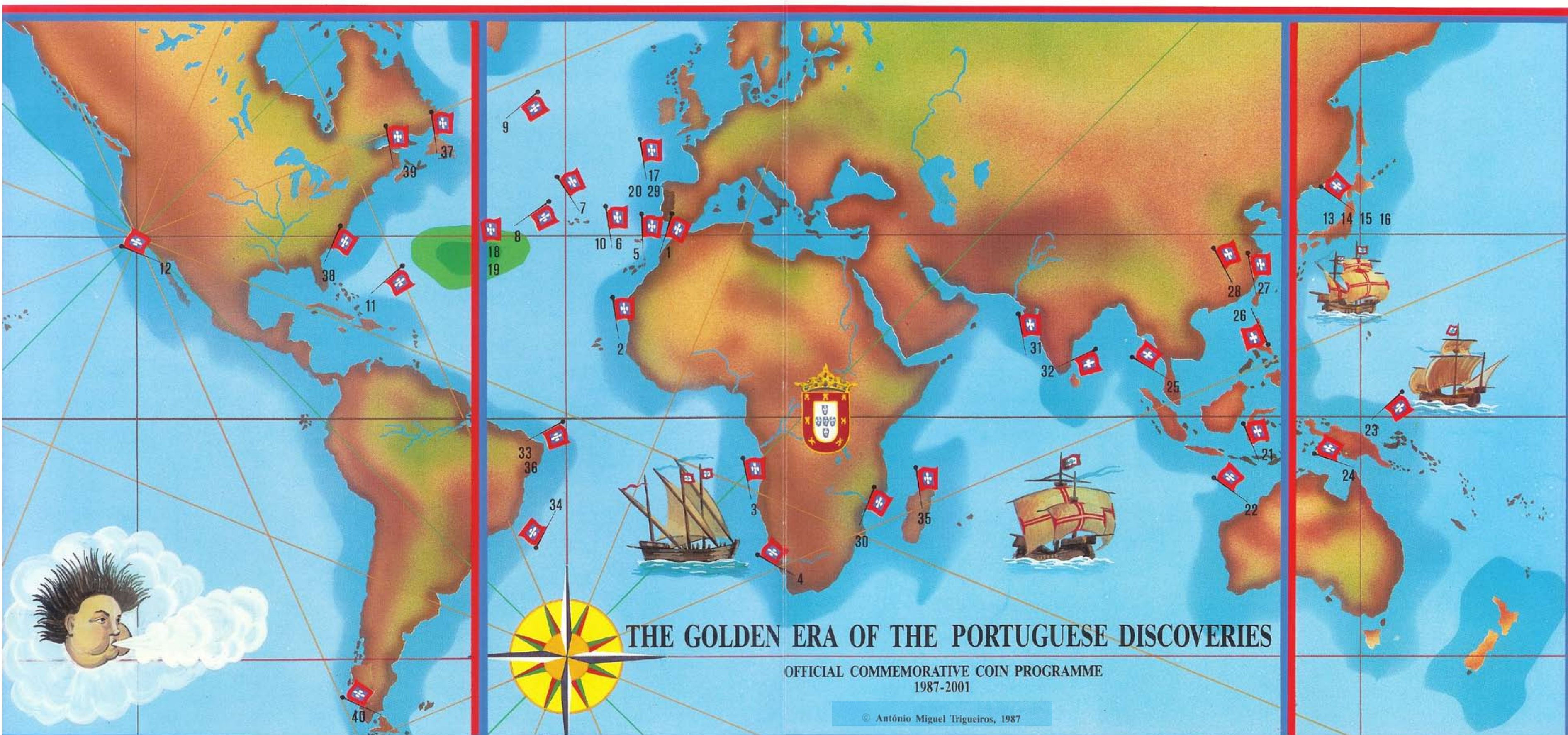
- Coin 9 : Pre-Columbian voyages to the West (1472/1495)
- Coin 10: Columbus and Portugal (1476-1484)
- Coin 11: The New World (America, 1492)
- Coin 12: The discovery of California (Cabrilho, 1542).

**SERIES IV (1993):
Portugal Meets Japan
— The Great Encounter of Civilizations**

- Coin 13: Landfall in Tanegashima (Mendes Pinto, 1543)
- Coin 14: Teppo, the first gun (1543)
- Coin 15: The Daimios of Omura (1582/1590)
- Coin 16: The Namban Art

**SERIES V (1994-1995):
Dividing up the world**

- Coin 17: Prince Henry, «The Navigator» (1394)
- Coin 18: The treaty of Tordesilhas (1494)
- Coin 19: Dividing up the world (1494)
- Coin 20: King John II, «The Perfect Prince» (1495)



**SERIES VI (1995-1996):
The Discovery of Australasia**

- Coin 21: The Spice Is. (Moluccas) and Timor (1512)
- Coin 22: The secret discovery of Australia (1525)
- Coin 23: The discovery of New Guinea (1526)
- Coin 24: The discovery of New Hebrides and the Torres Strait (1606)

**SERIES VII (1997):
The Opening of the China Sea**

- Coin 25: Albuquerque and Malacca (1511)
- Coin 26: Portugal and the sea trade with China (1513)
- Coin 27: The discovery of the Island of Formosa (Taiwan, 1583)
- Coin 28: The settling of Macao (1557)

**SERIES VIII (1998-1999):
India, at Last!**

- Coin 29: King Manuel I (1495)
- Coin 30: The Discovery of Natal (1497)
- Coin 31: The shores of Malabar (1498)
- Coin 32: Vasco da Gama, Adniral of the Seas (1499)

**SERIES IX (2000):
Landfall in Brazil**

- Coin 33: Brazil, the land of the Holy Cross (1500)
- Coin 34: Death at Sea (Bartolomeu Dias, 1500)
- Coin 35: The discovery of Madagascar (1500)
- Coin 36: Pedro Álvares Cabral (1500)

**SERIES X (2001):
Opening up New Frontiers**

- Coin 37: Newfoundland and the Corte-Real brothers (1500/1501)
- Coin 38: The secret discovery of Florida (1501)
- Coin 39: The first European settlement in North America (Ingonish, 1521)
- Coin 40: Circling the World (Ferdinand Magelland, 1521)

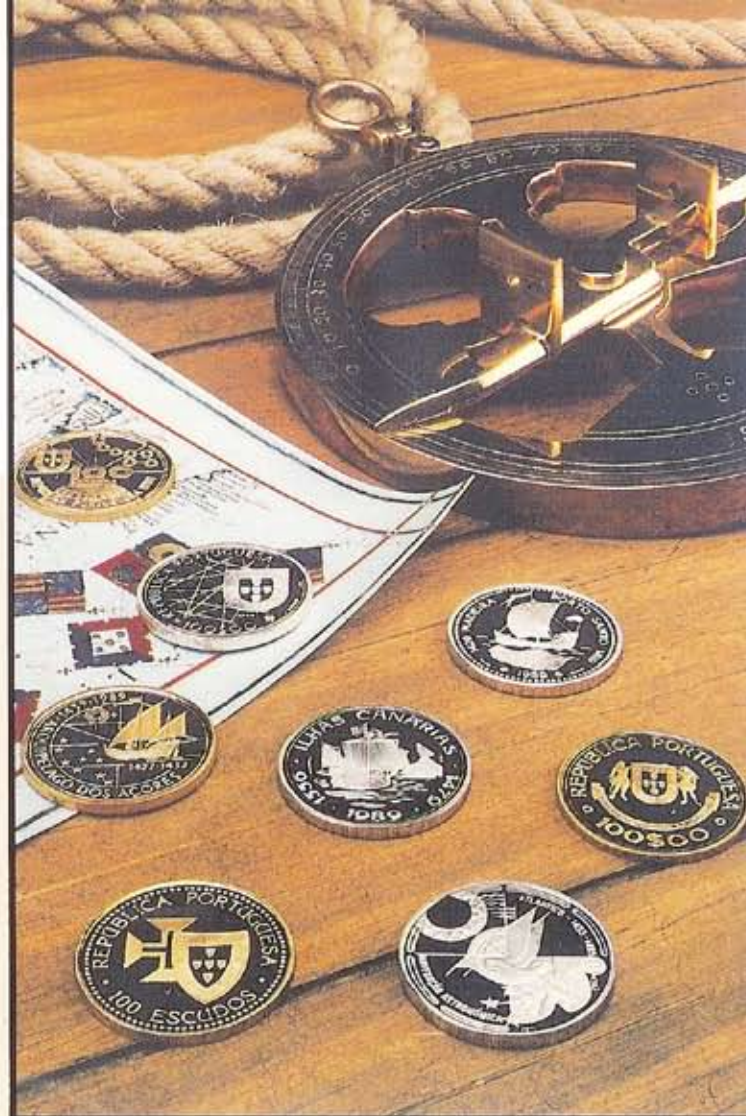
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SERIES I (1987-1988):
The Dawn of the Age of Discovery
 — Africa Unveiled.

SERIES I was issued in 1987/1988 and focused on the exploration of the Portuguese navigators along the African coast until Bartolomeu Dias proved in 1488 that a sea route eastward to the Orient existed.

SERIES II (1989-1990), which is now available, follows Portugal's bold explorers away from the security of the coast and into the uncharted and fearsome Great Ocean, the Atlantic. It pays tribute to the new lands they discovered — The Canary Isles, Madeira, The Azores — and the new science they created, celestial navigation.



SERIES II (1989-1990):
The Conquest of the Atlantic and the
newborn science of celestial navigation.

The success of the Portuguese in navigating the Atlantic was one of the crucial factors in the voyage of Christopher Columbus, whose discovery of America will be commemorated in **SERIES III** (1991-1992).

Future issues will commemorate the 450th anniversary of the arrival of the first Portuguese in Japan (1993); the 500th anniversary of the Treaty of Tordesillas between Portugal and Spain (1994) that split the world in two spheres of influence; the arrival of the first Portuguese ships in India, Malaysia and China (1513); and the Portuguese discoveries of

Brazil, California, Newfoundland, Florida, Australia, and more.

Since each issue of coins is strictly limited, as a collector, you know the importance of being among the first to order.

As the **COINS OF DISCOVERY** collection grows in importance and value with the issuance of later coins in the series, it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, for future collectors to acquire the earlier issues.

Additional information on the unique **COINS OF DISCOVERY** series is available from the Portuguese Mint's representative office in the United Kingdom:



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