

Collector's Journal

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2013 Woodrow Wilson Presidential Dollar

Twenty-Eighth in the Presidential Dollars Collection

The Woodrow Wilson Presidential Dollar is the fourth and final Presidential Dollar issued by the U.S. Mint in 2013. Released in the fall of 2013, it is also the 28th coin in the overall series. Coins are issued in the order in which the Presidents served, and eventually all deceased Presidents will be featured on individual coins.

The Presidential Dollars series will continue in 2014 with four new coins for the 29th through 32nd Presidents: Warren G. Harding, Calvin Coolidge, Herbert Hoover, and Franklin D. Roosevelt, respectively.

Each President is honored on a single coin to represent his term in office. As a result, Wilson will appear on one coin for his two terms that ran from 1913 to 1921. The only exception to this rule was Grover Cleveland, who was featured on two different coins in 2012 because his two terms in office were not consecutive.

In addition to the Presidential Dollars, the U.S. Mint also produces a matching series of First Spouse \$10 gold coins and bronze medals to honor the women who served as First Ladies. In the case of Woodrow Wilson, there were two First Ladies – Ellen, who died in 1914, and Edith, to whom he was married in 1915 – and therefore two First Spouse gold coins and medals.

The portrait of Wilson on this coin is based on photographs taken at about the time of his Presidency. It is notable for including his characteristic “pin-nez” eyeglasses. A similar image, albeit a three-quarters portrait instead of a side profile, was used on the Series of 1934 \$100,000 Gold Certificate, the highest-denomination U.S. bank note ever issued.

Each Presidential Dollar is a limited edition of only about three months. Coins are struck in Uncirculated condition at both the Philadelphia Mint (“P” mint mark on the edge) and the Denver Mint (“D” mint mark). The common reverse design of all coins is the Statue of Liberty.



Woodrow Wilson

Woodrow Wilson was born on December 29, 1856, in Staunton, Virginia. He was the last President born before the Civil War. After graduating from Princeton and practicing law, he earned a Ph.D. in political science from Johns Hopkins University and embarked on an academic career. He is the only President to hold a Ph.D.

Wilson became a professor at Princeton in New Jersey in 1890, and in 1902 he was appointed president of the university. He remained in that position until 1910, when he was elected Governor of New Jersey. Two years later, he won the Presidential election by defeating incumbent William H. Taft and former President Theodore Roosevelt in a three-way race.

The highlights of Wilson's Presidency included a prohibition on child labor and the establishment of the Federal Reserve to regulate the economy and the Federal Trade Commission to prohibit unfair business practices. On the strength of keeping the United States out of World War I, he won reelection in 1916. In April 1917, though, the U.S. joined the Allies in the war.

In 1918, Wilson established his “Fourteen Points” as an outline for peace, and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for helping end World War I. In 1919, he suffered a major stroke that virtually incapacitated him for the remainder of his Presidency. He died on February 3, 1924.

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