



SOUTH AFRICAN RESERVE BANK



A purposeful journey

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CELEBRATING AND COMMEMORATING
THE SOUTH AFRICAN RESERVE BANK'S
CENTENARY

1921-2021

A PURPOSEFUL JOURNEY

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1923

1965

1961

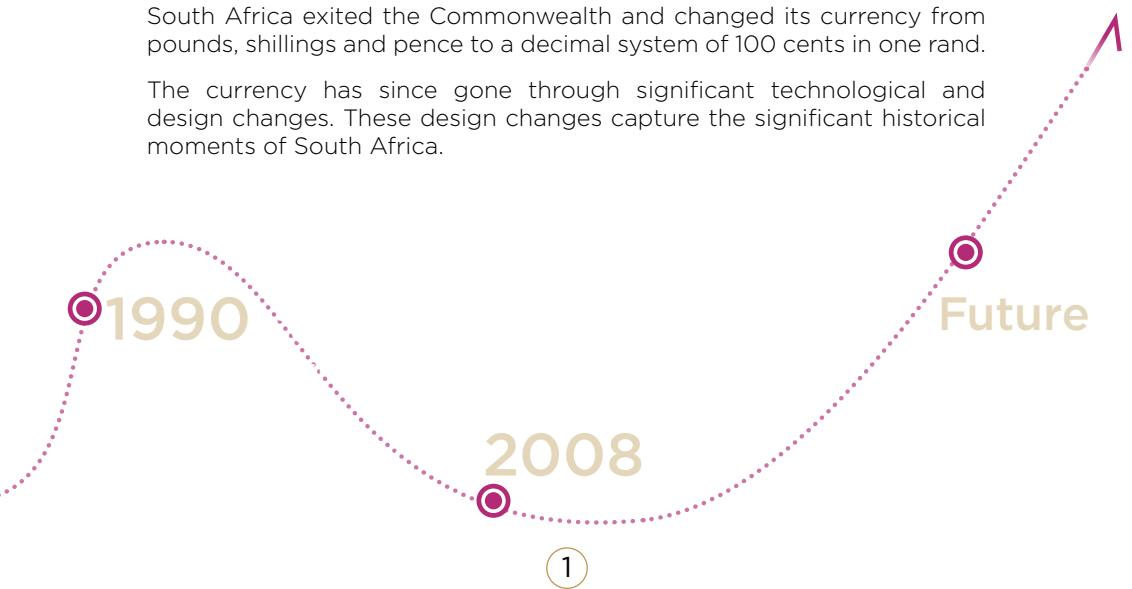
A PURPOSEFUL JOURNEY

CELEBRATING AND COMMEMORATING THE SOUTH AFRICAN RESERVE BANK'S CENTENARY

The Currency and Banking Act 31 of 1920 provided for the establishment of a central bank in South Africa, with its main functions being the issuing of banknotes and taking over the gold held by commercial banks. The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) opened its doors on 30 June 1921 and is the oldest central bank in Africa.

In May 1961 the Republic of South Africa was established, the same year South Africa exited the Commonwealth and changed its currency from pounds, shillings and pence to a decimal system of 100 cents in one rand.

The currency has since gone through significant technological and design changes. These design changes capture the significant historical moments of South Africa.





2017



In 2011, a commemorative R5 coin was minted when the SARB celebrated its 90th anniversary.

The design on the reverse of the R5 coin, featuring a banknote and five coins, depicted the history of the SARB and how South Africa's currency mirrored the changing economic and political developments.

A sterling-silver collector's coin with a gold-plated centre was also issued to mirror the design of the commemorative R5 coin.



2011 sterling-silver R5 coin

2021



The SARB's 100-year history is marked by the date 2021 and, as part of the centenary celebrations, a commemorative R5 coin as well as a gold-plated sterling-silver collector's coin will be issued as a continuation of the story featured on the two R5 coins issued in 2011.



The reverse design represents the 100-year timeline through the depiction of currency issued by the SARB.



1923

THREE PENCE (TICKEY)

The 1923 three pence (tickey) represents the currency issued during the period of the Union of South Africa.



1965

20c

The 1965 20c coin depicts the king protea, South Africa's national flower.

1961

R1 GOLD COIN

A 1961 R1 gold coin features the springbok, South Africa's national animal.



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THE 100-YEAR TIMELINE IS DEPICTED THROUGH THE COINS ISSUED BY THE SARB.



1990

1c

The 1990 1c coin features two sparrows, and represents the third decimal coin series.



2008

R5

The R5 coin minted in 2008, in honour of former President Nelson Mandela's 90th birthday, recognises his vast contribution to South Africa.

Future

10c



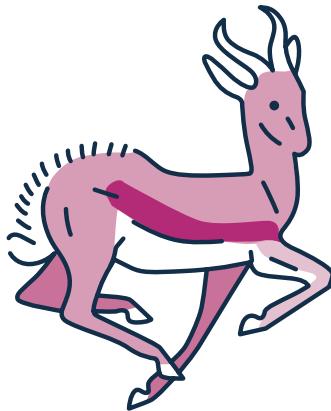
1923



THREE PENCE (TICKEY)

The 1923 three pence (tickey) represents the currency issued during the period of the Union of South Africa, before decimalisation, which consisted of pounds, shillings and pence. Under this system, there were 12 pence in a shilling and 20 shillings in a pound.

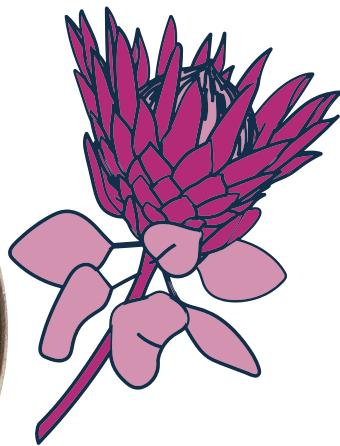
1961



R1 GOLD COIN

A 1961 R1 gold coin features the springbok. This coin represents the introduction of the rand as the official currency issued after South Africa became a Republic on 31 May 1961. The R1 coin formed part of the first decimal coin series. The springbok has featured on numerous coins and is especially recognised as the reverse design on the world-famous Krugerrand. The springbok is South Africa's national animal.

1965



20c COIN

The 1965 20c coin depicts the king protea, South Africa's national flower. The coin formed part of the second decimal coin series.

1990



1c COIN

The 1990 1c coin featuring two sparrows represents the third decimal coin series. The two sparrows first featured on the quarter penny (farthing) issued in 1923 and were depicted on the smallest coin within each South African coin range until 2002.

2008



R5 COIN

The R5 coin minted in 2008, in honour of former President Nelson Mandela's 90th birthday, takes prominence on the 2021 commemorative R5 coin. It is included in the design as a unifying coin and to highlight the immense contribution Mr Mandela made to the history of South Africa.

Future



10c COIN

The last coin on the commemorative R5 coin is a 10c coin from the soon-to-be-released fourth decimal series. This coin depicts the Cape honey bee and represents the future of the currency and the SARB.

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