



## Commodus Triumphal Sestertius -- Certificate Of Authenticity



610 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Bon état

### Description

COIN AVAILABLE -- THE DIFFERENT PAYMENT METHODS ARE LISTED AT THE END OF THE DESCRIPTION.

#### Analysis & expertise

This large-module bronze sestertius of Commodus, attributable to the Rome mint and datable by titlature to AD 183 (TR P VIII), belongs to a sought-after series distinguished by the visual impact of its reverse: the emperor shown in a triumphal quadriga. The combination of legends, portrait, and iconography matches the type recorded as RIC 376 / Cohen 910, with the expected module markers, notably S C on the reverse.

Close examination with a  $\times 10$  loupe and raking light: inspection of both sides reveals an old patina dominated by deep blue-green tones, with

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warm brown nuances and locally lighter areas on the relief. The surface shows a regular micro-granulation and naturally smoothed zones consistent with ancient circulation; the fields display fine, diffuse contact marks, without an artificially "varnished" look or pasty relief, within the strict limits of what can be established from the images. The flan is irregular at the edge (typical of large ancient bronzes), with slight peripheral weakness and a small localized nick that does not impede reading of the type.

#### Obverse

The portrait follows the official canon of Commodus: laureate head right, hair rendered in tight curls, and a short, structured beard. Under raking light, the volumes of the forehead, brow ridge, and cheekbone remain clearly readable, while the high points (wreath, nose, beard) show even wear.

The legend M COMMODVS ANTONINVS AVG PIVS is recognizable around the perimeter in segments: some letters stand out clearly, others appear weaker depending on centering and wear. The beaded border is visible in places, contributing to the "monetary" readability of the module.

#### Reverse

The reverse depicts the emperor in a triumphal quadriga to the left. The composition remains highly legible, with the four horses rendered in volume (necks, head masses, and, in places, discernible harness lines) and the chariot identifiable. The emperor holds an eagle-tipped sceptre, a distinctive detail of the type; the drapery and posture remain readable despite wear.

The legend TR P VIII IMP VI COS IIII P P frames the type, readable in segments, and S C appears in the exergue, in accordance with the expected scheme for senatorial large bronzes. The ensemble "titulature + quadriga + S C" forms a particularly characteristic typological set, consistent with the stated attribution.

#### Specifications

Authority: Commodus (AD 177-192)

Denomination: Sestertius (Æ)

Mint: Rome

Date: AD 183 (TR P VIII)

Obverse: M COMMODVS ANTONINVS AVG

PIVS, laureate head right

Reverse: TR P VIII IMP VI COS IIII P P,  
emperor in triumphal quadriga left, holding an  
eagle-tipped sceptre; S C in exergue

References: RIC 376; Cohen 910

Weight: 18.16 g

Diameter: 30.5 mm

Rarity: type regularly noted as relatively  
uncommon for this triumphal reverse on  
Commodus sestertii

Historical context

The titlature TR P VIII / IMP VI / COS IIII / P P  
places this issue within a phase in which imperial  
power foregrounds a public representation of  
victory and majesty. The triumphal quadriga  
belongs to a visual vocabulary inherited from  
Roman triumphs: it proclaims authority as  
celebrated and visible, embedded in the city's  
ceremonial life and in an iconographic tradition  
immediately intelligible to contemporaries.

Cultural value

For collectors, this sestertius combines three  
major strengths: a large module with strong  
presence, a characteristic official portrait of  
Commodus, and above all a narrative reverse  
(triumphal quadriga) that is markedly more  
striking--and more sought after--than the more  
common "virtues" reverses. It is a true display  
piece with immediate iconographic readability.

Traceability & guarantees

In accordance with our practice, each specimen is  
examined, described, and accompanied by a  
certificate of authenticity consistent with the  
standards of the art and heritage market, with the  
study conducted through close observation under  
a ×10 loupe and raking light. Provenance is  
European, sourced through a professional  
numismatic channel; the acquisition results from  
a specialized international transaction carried out

within a recognized network and validated by expert review, according to practices applicable to heritage objects.

#### Secure shipping

To determine the most suitable arrangements for your situation, please send us a message specifying your location and the exact delivery address; we will immediately confirm the corresponding payment and shipping procedure.

France: Colissimo shipping, with signature and insurance (EUR20).

International: UPS shipping, with signature and insurance (EUR35).