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Trebonianus Gallus Sestertius Salvs Avgg -- Certificate Of Authenticity



450 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Description

Analysis & expertise
This sestertius of Trebonianus Gallus (AD 251-253), attributed to Rome, conveys one of the clearest political messages of the reign: SALVS AVGG ("the Health of the Augusti"), featuring Salus with the serpent (a canonical health/protection symbol) and the senatorial mark S-C in the field. The type corresponds to RIC IV.3, 121A (variant with Salus holding the serpent in her arms).
Close observation under ×10 magnification and raking light (based on the photographs): the coin shows a notably even brassy / golden orichalcum-like tone, with discreet surface nuances (small localized greenish traces and minor ancient marks) consistent with normal aging of a large Roman bronze. The fields display

Dealer

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a fine micro-texture and light circulation traces, while the relief remains readable and coherent (portrait, lettering, Salus figure, serpent).
The flan appears "alive" (not perfectly regular), with minor peripheral weaknesses and small rim inconsistencies, features commonly encountered on 3rd-century sestertii. Within the strict limits of non-destructive visual assessment, the overall character (continuous relief transitions, consistent style, letter cutting, and strike structure) remains compatible with an ancient Rome mint strike.

Obverse
Portrait: laureate bust right, with drapery visible at the neck/shoulder. The face retains good structure (eye, nasal ridge, mouth, chin), and the hair and beard remain readable despite natural high-point wear. The laurel wreath is still distinguishable in segments, enhancing the portrait's presence.
Legend: IMP CAES C VIBIVS TREBONIANVS GALLVS AVG, readable in sections around the rim; several letters remain crisp, while certain peripheral areas soften where rim wear is strongest.

Reverse
Type: Salus standing, holding the serpent in her arms (the protective/feeding gesture suggested by the serpent's position). In the photographs, the figure separates clearly from the field, and the serpent's coil remains perceptible--one of the decisive iconographic markers for this variety.
Senatorial mark: S - C appears to either side of the figure, clearly placed and immediately identifiable, as expected on this large senatorial bronze.
Legend: SALVS AVGG, readable in segments; the remaining legend structure is consistent with the observed centering and typical peripheral wear for the module.

Specifications
Authority: Trebonianus Gallus (251-253)

Mint: Rome
Denomination: Sestertius (Æ)
Obverse: IMP CAES C VIBIVS TREBONIANVS GALLVS AVG -- laureate and draped bust right
Reverse: SALVS AVGG -- Salus standing, holding a serpent in her arms; S-C in the field
References: RIC IV.3 121A; Cohen 115 (with common concordances to Sear 9678)
Weight: 17.99 g

Historical context
The SALVS AVGG message belongs to a period of intense political and social tension: Trebonianus Gallus rose after Decius' death, adopted Hostilian as co-ruler, who died soon after amid a deteriorating health climate, before Volusian became co-emperor. In such circumstances, invoking the Health of the Augusti reads as a stabilizing statement of continuity--particularly meaningful and time-specific for the opening of the reign.

Cultural value
For collectors of large 3rd-century bronzes, this sestertius brings together highly desirable qualities:
an instantly intelligible iconography (Salus + serpent);
an explicit political legend (AVGG) reinforced by the institutional S-C mark;
an attribution securely framed by standard references, facilitating comparison, documentation, and placement within a 3rd-century crisis series.

Traceability & guarantees
In accordance with our practices, each specimen is examined, described, and accompanied by a certificate of authenticity consistent with the standards of the art and heritage market. The assessment is carried out under ×10 magnification and raking light and relies on non-destructive criteria: typological, stylistic, and metrological

coherence against reference works (RIC and concordances).
The provenance is professional European, and the acquisition forms part of a specialized international transaction within an established numismatic network, validated according to professional market practice.

Secure shipping
Shipping is by tracked service with signature and insurance, using protective packaging (shock padding and discreet outer packing). Exact parameters are confirmed according to destination country and delivery address.