

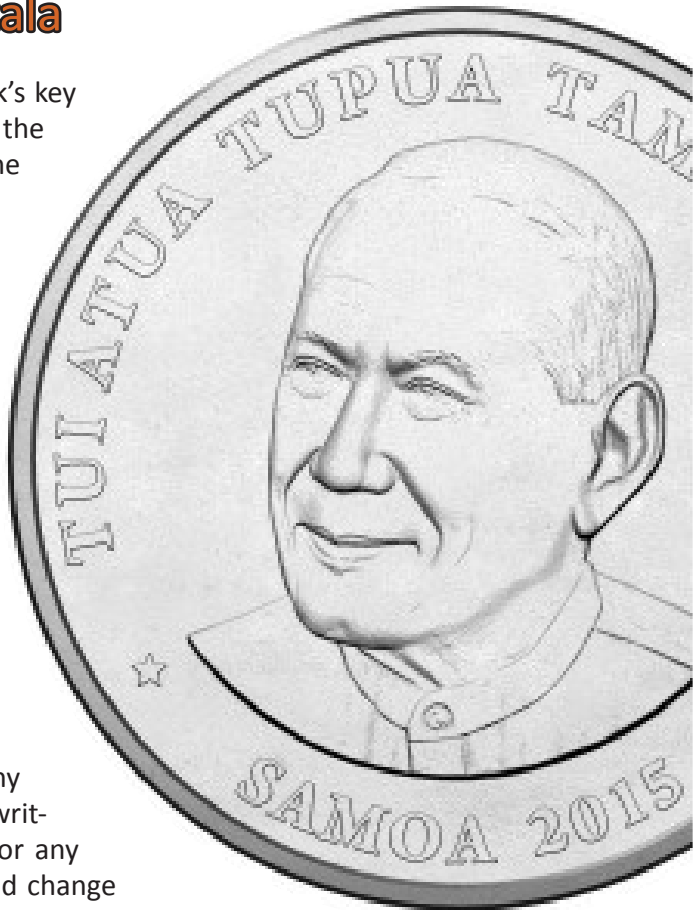
# Samoa's currency

## The Samoan tala

One of the Central Bank's key obligations is to meet the currency needs of the public.

It has to ensure that stocks of all currency denominations (notes and coins) are in adequate supply and of high quality to meet the transactional needs of the public.

No other person is allowed to print or issue currency. And, it is an offence to deface any currency by means of writing, stamping, erasure or any other actions that would change the features of the currency.



## \$5 tala

The front of the \$5 tala bank note reflects the increasing importance of our limited pristine beach resources to the development of Samoa's main economic driver - the tourism industry. The reverse portrays the Vailima residence of author Robert Louis Stevenson or Tusitala (Teller of Tales) as he was known in Samoa.



## \$20 tala

The front of the \$20 tala bank note features a beautiful waterfall. The reverse features our national bird, the Manumea, and Samoa's national flower, the Teuila. These images portray the diversity and beauty of Samoa's natural environment to protect and treasure for generations to enjoy.



## \$100 tala

The \$100 tala bank note commemorates the life of the late Malietoa Tanumafili II, Head of State of Samoa from 1962 to 2007. The reverse side features the Mulivai Catholic Cathedral, one of the nation's oldest churches. It is a significant historical symbol of Christianity in Samoa, representing the people's strong religious beliefs.





## \$10 tala

The \$10 tala bank note commemorates sports and education in Samoa. The front features Samoa's rugby sevens team's triumphant victory, crowned champions at the IRB Hong Kong Sevens in 2007. The reverse features Samoan children on their way to school. They are seen as the future of our proud nation.



## \$50 tala

The \$50 tala bank note depicts political and economic maturity and stability. The front side of the bank note features the Government complex at Matagalalua, while the reverse side of the bank note features the Central Bank of Samoa.

## 2011 Coins



In 2011, Samoa introduced new circulation coins – one and two tala, plus 10, 20 and 50 sene. The five coins represent the history and culture of Samoa and feature Samoa's cultural treasures – the

Fautasi Race, Manumea Bird, Teuila Flower, Kava Bowl and the Official National Emblem. The obverse of these coins depicts the effigy of His Royal Highness Tui-Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi.

## **Protecting against counterfeit currency**

The Central Bank takes counterfeiting of the Samoan currency (bank notes and coins) very seriously and responds by researching and developing new security features that are difficult to copy but easy to use.

These include watermarks, raised ink, security numbers and fluorescence.

The Bank works closely with local law enforcement to monitor and respond to counterfeiting activity and also promotes awareness on how the public can easily detect counterfeits from genuine currency.

## **Damaged currency**

The Central Bank of Samoa will exchange any damaged, mutilated or contaminated currency of the Independent State of Samoa with new

currency at the face value under the conditions that there are sufficient fragments or remains of the currency.

A damaged banknote may be exchanged at full face value if more than three fourths of the genuine note remains, or at half face value if less than three-fourths but more than two-fifths of the genuine note remains.

## **Currency collectibles**

The Currency Collectibles Section of the Central Bank sells currency products for collectors. Most of these collector's products have low mintage or production volume, and have a Samoan theme to their design.

These collectibles include the Samoa Independence 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coins, 2013 Colour Printed Teuila One Tala Coin and the 2015 Commonwealth Youth Games collectible coin.