



# FIRST SPOUSE SERIES

## ONE-HALF OUNCE PROOF AND UNCIRCULATED COINS

### HIGHLY COLLECTABLE SERIES

American First Ladies are now honored with First Spouse Gold Coins, which are one-half ounce, 24 karat pure gold coins minted in collector proof and uncirculated versions. This series of gold coins introduced in 2007 and set to last until 2016 compliment and are released on the same schedule as the US Mint Presidential \$1 program which honors past Presidents at a rate of four gold coins each year.

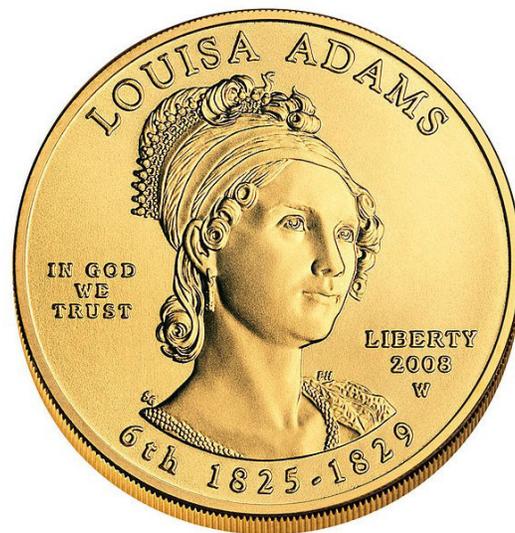


### THE FIRST SPOUSE GOLD COINS PROGRAM

The program is the first to feature women in a consecutive series of legal tender coins. The series of gold coins is authorized through the Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005, which was signed into law (Public Law 109-145) on Dec. 22, 2005 by President George Bush. It calls for the following coin specifications:

- A \$10 denomination
- The same diameter as the \$1 coins
- Issued as counterparts and during the same period as the circulating Presidential \$1 coins

There are two cases where a President has had more than one wife during service and two coins are issued, like John Tyler. Tyler's first wife Letitia died during his second year in office. Tyler later married Julia while still President. Under the program, both Letitia and Julia First Spouse Coins were produced.



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# LOUISA ADAMS 2008



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## LOUISA ADAMS FIRST SPOUSE GOLD COIN

The Louisa Adams First Spouse Gold Coin was released by the US Mint on May 29, 2008. This was the sixth release of the First Spouse Gold Program and the second coin released for 2008. When the Louisa Adams coins went on sale, the prior two releases honoring Dolley Madison and Elizabeth Monroe remained on sale.

The only first lady to be born outside the U.S., Louisa Catherine Johnson was born in 1775 in London to an American father and British mother. The family moved to France when she was three, where she completed her education. She met John Quincy Adams while he was serving in a diplomatic post in London and they married in 1797. Her first time on American soil came in 1801 when John Quincy was called back from diplomatic service by President Jefferson. She finally met her in-laws, former president John Adams and the formidable Abigail Adams, at that time.

Louisa Adams was an accomplished musician whose talents included singing, playing the harp and piano, and composing. A prolific author, she penned both poetry and drama. She authored a play titled *Suspicion, or Persecuted Innocence* while she served as first lady, in which she stressed the strengths of women. She was the first first lady to write her memoirs, entitled *Adventures of a Nobody*.

## COIN SPECIFICATIONS

Date: 2008

Mint: West Point (W)

Mintage: 6,581 (proof), 3,885 (uncirculated)

Designers: Susan Gamble (obverse), Donna Weaver (reverse)

Composition: 0.9999 Gold

Weight: 0.5000 troy oz. (15.554 g)

Diameter: 1.041 inches (26.49 mm)

Thickness: 0.074 inches (1.88 mm)