

# Australia: Boer War: Royal Visit of Duke & Duchess of Cornwall & York

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**Form:** Circular. Holed at 12 o'clock

**By:** ?

**Date:** 1901

**Ref:** Carlisle: 1901/16; Laidlaw: 1111;

**Variations:**

Size	Metal	Mass	Value
22.7 mm	Bronze	5.8 gm	\$15

**Edge:** Plain.

**Obverse:** Within a wreath of oak (left) and palm (right) tied with a bow at the bottom, bareheaded bust of King Edward VII, half left. Legend above: "EDWARD VII. R.I." and below between stops: "FEAR GOD & HONOUR THE KING".

**Reverse:** Bareheaded bust of the Duke (left) and the Duchess (right), both front, Southern Cross of five stars between. Around above: "T.R.H. THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CORNWALL (in an arc) / & YORK / 1901" and below: "WELCOME / TO AUSTRALIA (in an arc)".

**Notes:** In 1901, the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York (later King George V and Queen Mary) toured the British Empire, travelling on the steamship "Ophir". Their tour included Malta, Ceylon, the Cape Colony in South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the Colony of Newfoundland. The tour was designed by Colonial Secretary Joseph Chamberlain with the approval of Prime Minister Lord Salisbury to show Britain's appreciation for the loyal participation of the dominions in Boer War.

The Duke and Duchess arrived at Albany, Western Australia, on SS Ophir. They sailed to Melbourne, arriving there on 10 May 1901, where the Duke opened the first Australian federal parliament. The royal couple later travelled by train to Sydney and visited Queensland from 20 to 25 May, where they laid the foundation stone of St John's Cathedral.