

Modern Dime Size Silver Coins of the World

# COSTA RICA

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**1892 - 10 CENTAVOS - BIRMINGHAM MINT**



### 1892 -10 CENTAVOS - REVERSE

COSTA RICA, REPUBLIC of  
BIRMINGHAM MINT

10 CENTAVOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

|      |         |
|------|---------|
| 1889 | 260,000 |
| 1890 | 215,125 |
| 1892 | 139,936 |

▲OV: Arms, within short wreath of laural and palm, REPUBLICA DE COSTA RICA (Republic of Costa Rica) above, / DATE below.

▼RV: 10 / CENTAVOS / - within wreath of laural and palm tied with ribbon below, AMERICA CENTRAL above, 9 D<sub>s</sub> / HEATON BIRM<sub>m</sub> (mintmark) ★ around below

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: HEATON BIRM<sub>m</sub> = R. Heaton & Sons, BIRMINGHAM

REFERENCE: Y-18, KM-129

POPULATION: Costa Rica - 1890 - 180,000

FOOTNOTE: The *Modern Dime Size Silver Coins* of Costa Rica were mostly struck at the National mint of San Jose, for the period from 1850 through 1917. Twice the country ordered this size coinage from other mints; R. Heaton & Sons, Birmingham 1889-92 and Philadelphia 1905-14. This series has one of the smallest mintages for a long series.

FOOTNOTE: Costa Rica is one of the most advanced of the Central American republics. Costa Rica took steps in 1896 to establish a gold standard, and by 1900 had succeeded. Unlike its neighbors it was able to get rid entirely of the miscellaneous foreign coins which made up a large part of the circulation. *Silver Money by D. Leavens, Bloomington, Ind., 1939.*



### 1914 -10 CENTAVOS - OBVERSE

COSTA RICA, REPUBLIC of  
PHILADELPHIA MINT

10 CENTIMOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.0 GRAMS

|      |         |
|------|---------|
| 1905 | 400,000 |
| 1910 | 400,000 |
| 1912 | 267,783 |
| 1914 | 150,000 |

▲OV: Arms on cartouche, REPUBLICA DE COSTA RICA (Republic of Costa Rica) around / ★ DATE ★ below.

▼RV: 10 / CENTIMOS / - within wreath of laural tied with ribbon below, AMERICA CENTRAL above, ★ 900 M ★ G.C.R. ★ (Gobierno de Costa Rica = Government of Costa Rica) below, incised in stars (obv) and (rev) C and R, left and right.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = PHILADELPHIA

REFERENCE: Y-40, KM-146

POPULATION: Costa Rica - 1910 - 368,780 with capital San Jose with 29,660 inhabitants.

FOOTNOTE: In 1896 a new monetary system based on the gold colon of 778 milligrams, .900 fine was established with the unit colon (Colombus) divided into 100 centimos. - The colon was worth U.S. 46.5 cents - 1910.

FOOTNOTE: The unit of currency of Costa Rica is the colon. Conversion of notes into gold was suspended on September 18, 1914.





1914 -10 CENTAVOS - REVERSE



1853 - 1/8 PESO - OBVERSE

COSTA RICA, REPUBLIC of  
SAN JOSE MINT

1/8 PESO 19MM .9027 FINE 3.0 GRAMS

1850 u/m  
1853 u/m  
1855 u/m

OV: Arms, REPUBLICA DE COSTA RICA (Republic of Costa Rica) above, within laurel and palm wreath / DATE below.

RV: Mahogany tree dividing denomination, 1 and P<sub>o</sub> (peso), AMERICA CENTRAL above, 10 D<sub>s</sub> 20 G<sub>o</sub> J.B. (10 dineros 20 granos) below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = SAN JOSE

ASSAYER: J.B. = unknown

REFERENCE: Y-6, KM-102



Arms of Costa Rica

FOOTNOTE: The Coat of Arms of Costa Rica - Three mountains by the sea, behind the first of which rises the sun, in front and behind, a three masted ship, above 5 stars. The five stars in the Coat of Arms symbolize the original five states of the former Union of Central America; Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Salvador and Costa Rica.



Sacking coffee, Costa Rica - 1902





**1853 - 1/8 PESO - REVERSE**



**1865 - 10 CENTAVOS - OBVERSE**

COSTA RICA, REPUBLIC of  
SAN JOSE MINT

10 CENTAVOS 19MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

|      |         |
|------|---------|
| 1865 | 185,311 |
| 1868 | 9,943   |
| 1870 | 48,210  |
| 1872 | 17,874  |

▲OV: Arms, REPUBLICA DE COSTA RICA (Republic of Costa Rica) above, within short laurel and palm wreath / DATE below.

▼RV: Mahogany tree dividing denomination, 10 and C<sub>s</sub> AMERICA CENTRAL above, 9 D. W G below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = SAN JOSE

ASSAYER: W G = Guillermo Witting

TYPE: 19MM

REFERENCE: Y-10, KM-111



FOOTNOTE: The development of the banana trade dates from 1881, when 3,500 bunches of fruit were exported to New Orleans. This total increased very rapidly. In 1904 the number of bunches sent abroad exceeded 6,000,000.



**Coffee trees**



### 1865 - 10 CENTAVOS - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: In 1864 Costa Rica adopted the decimal system with the peso divided in to 100 centavos.



### 1875 - 10 CENTAVOS - 18 mm

COSTA RICA, REPUBLIC of  
SAN JOSE MINT

10 CENTAVOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1875 286,486

▲OV: Arms, REPUBLICA DE COSTA RICA (Republic of Costa Rica) above, within short laurel and palm wreath / 1875 below.

▼RV: Mahogany tree dividing denomination, 10 and Cs AMERICA CENTRAL above, 9 D. G.W. below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = SAN JOSE

ASSAYER: G.W. = unknown

TYPE: Same design as Y-10, size reduced from 19MM to 18MM.

REFERENCE: Y-10a, KM-121

FOOTNOTE: Costa Rica, literally, Spanish for "Rich Coast"



### 1886 - 10 CENTAVOS - OBVERSE

COSTA RICA, REPUBLIC of  
SAN JOSE MINT

10 CENTAVOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1886 120,465

▲OV: Arms, REPUBLICA DE COSTA RICA (Republic of Costa Rica) above, within short laurel and palm wreath / 1886 below.

▼RV: 10 / CENTAVOS / - within wreath of laurel and palm tied with ribbon below, AMERICA CENTRAL above, 9 D. G.W. below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = SAN JOSE

ASSAYER: G.W. = Guillermo Witting

REFERENCE: Y-14, KM-126

TYPE: I - (obv) no designers initials, (rev) 9 D.







### 1886 - 10 CENTAVOS - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: In 1885 Costa Rica adopted as a standard unit the silver Peso of 25 grams, 900 thousandths fine equivalent to the 5 franc piece of the Latin Monetary Union. The decimal coinage was consistent with this with 100 centavos equal to the peso.



### 1887 - 10 CENTAVOS - REVERSE

COSTA RICA, REPUBLIC of  
SAN JOSE MINT

10 CENTAVOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1887 245,371

▲OV: Arms within short laurel and palm wreath ,  
REPUBLICA DE COSTA RICA (Republic of Costa Rica) above, / C  
B / 1887 below.

▼RV: 10 / CENTAVOS / - within wreath of laurel and  
palm tied with ribbon below, AMERICA CENTRAL above, 9 Ds. G.  
W. below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = SAN JOSE

DESIGNER: C B = Charles Barber

ASSAYER: G.W. = Guillermo Witting

REFERENCE: Y-14, KM-126

TYPE: II - (obv) designers initials CB, (rev) 9 Ds.



### 1887 - 10 CENTAVOS - OBVERSE Designer - Charles Barber

FOOTNOTE: Costa Rica is the most southern state of the republics of Central America. Costa Rica is said to contain some rich gold-mines; at present, however, they are not worked to any great extent. Silver and copper are also found. The country is extremely fertile. Coffee, rice, maize are raised on the table-land in the interior; and cacao, vanilla, sugar, cotton, tobacco are cultivated in the low coast-regions. Coffee forms the most important product. The forests are valuable. The Capital is San Jose, and the two established ports are Punta Arenas, on the Pacific side, and Porto Limon, on the Caribbean Sea. It has been an independent state since 1821, from 1824 to 1839 forming a part of the Central American Confederation, but subsequently separate. In 1892 there were 161 miles of railway and 630 miles of telegraph lines. Population 213,785, mostly of Spanish decent. *Cabinet Cyclopaedia, 1895.*



### 1917 - 10 CENTAVOS - OBVERSE

COSTARICA, REPUBLIC of  
SAN JOSE MINT

10 CENTIMOS 18MM .500 FINE 2.0 GRAMS

1917 99,640

▲OV: Arms on cartouche, REPUBLICA DE COSTA RICA (Republic of Costa Rica) around / • 1917 • below.

▼RV: 10 / CENTIMOS / - within wreath of laurel and palm tied with ribbon below, AMERICA CENTRAL above, 500 M G.C.R ★ (Gobierno de Costa Rica = Government of Costa Rica) below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = SAN JOSE

REFERENCE: Y-42, KM-148

FOOTNOTE: In 1910 there were over 400 miles of railway and 1,200 miles of telegraph lines in Costa Rica. The finances are in some disorder, and education is at a low ebb. Population 331,340, mostly of Spanish descent. *Winston's Encyclopedia, 1918.*

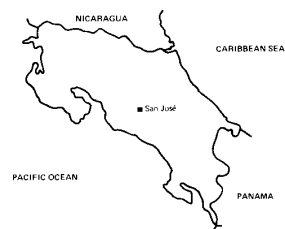
FOOTNOTE: Nearly a third of the population live on the dry side of the mountains, where the largest coffee plantations are scattered for 50 miles around San Jose, the Capital. When the coffee berry is ripe in December all the men, women and children available pick the crop. The berries are washed, then dried in the sun and taken to factories, where the crop is prepared by modern machinery for market. Most of the coffee is bought by agents of foreign firms several months before harvest. All of Cost Rica's export trade in 1908 was valued at \$7,758,000 with a population of 360,000. By 1912 the population had increased to 388,266 with the Capital city San Jose with 51,105 inhabitants.



### 1917 - 10 CENTAVOS - REVERSE



### Loading bananas



### Costa Rica today