

FINLAND



1864 - 50 PENNIÄ

FINLAND, GRAND DUCHY of
HELSINGFORS MINT

50 PENNIÄ 18.6 MM .750 FINE 2.55 GRAMS

1864 104,000

▲OV: Crowned Double Headed Imperial Russian Eagle with Finish Arms, rampant lion holding sword and walking on a sword, on breast, S below to right.

▲RV: 50 / PENNIÄ / 1864 within oak wreath tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = HELSINGFORS

MINTMASTER: S = August Friedrich Soldann, 1864-88

TYPE: I - Large letter denomination / Small eagle

REFERENCE: Y-5, *Suomessa Kaytetyt Rahat by Erkki Borg, Klaukkala, Finland 1976.*

FOOTNOTE: All of the Finnish coins of this series were minted at the Helsingfors mint. The city was renamed Helsinki after independence in 1917. Listings are in chronological order.

FOOTNOTE: August Friedrich Soldann was appointed Director of the Hotel des Monnaies (mint) at Helsingfors July 4, 1861.

FOOTNOTE: The beautiful city of Helsingfors, capital of Russian Finland, (c.1888) contains a university, and its environment of hills, clothed with evergreen woods, are exceedingly picturesque. The harbor is capacious and excellent. The old fortress, bombarded by the English fleet, during the Crimean War, has been supplemented by earthworks, rendering the place impregnable. *In a Winding Journey Around the World, O.W.Wight, Detroit, 1888.*



Arms of Finland



1869 - 50 PENNIÄ - REVERSE

FINLAND, GRAND DUCHY of
HELSINGFORS MINT

50 PENNIÄ 18.6 MM .750 FINE 2.55 GRAMS

1865	1,184,000
1866	363,000
1868	140,000
1869	144,000
1871	320,000

▲OV: Crowned Double Headed Imperial Russian Eagle with Finish Arms, rampant lion holding sword and walking on a sword, on breast, S below to right.

▲RV: 50 / PENNIÄ / DATE within oak wreath tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = HELSINGFORS

MINTMASTER: S = August Friedrich Soldann, 1864-88

TYPE: II - Large letter denomination / Large Eagle

REFERENCE: Y-5

FOOTNOTE: Finland, a grand-duchy governed subject to its own constitution by the emperor of Russia as grand-duke of Finland. The bulk of the population are Finns; 2,352,990 in 1904 and Swedes 349,733. Of the Russians there were only 5939. Helsingfors, capital of the grand-duchy and principal seaport has 111,654 inhabitants. *Encyclopaedia Britannia, 11th Ed., London, 1911.*

FINLAND, GRAND DUCHY of
HELSINGFORS MINT

50 PENNIÄ 18.6 MM .750 FINE 2.55 GRAMS

1872	200,000	
1874	402,000	
1876	600	rare

▲OV: Crowned Double Headed Imperial Russian Eagle with Finish Arms, rampant lion holding sword and walking on a sword, on breast, S below to right.

▲RV: 50 / PENNIÄ / DATE within oak wreath tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = HELSINGFORS

MINTMASTER: S = August Friedrich Soldann, 1864-88

TYPE: III - Small letter denomination / S for Soldann

REFERENCE: Y-5

FOOTNOTE: Finland for 500 years remained under the Swedish crown. King John III made the country a Grand Duchy. Under Swedish rule people enjoyed an autonomous constitutional government. While Finnish remained the language of the peasantry, Swedish became that of the towns and of the cultivated and official class. During the long wars between Russia and Sweden, Finland was frequently a battle ground, and as the Finnish frontier was only 33 miles from St.Petersburg, it was naturally desired by Russia to round out its territory and complete its defenses. After a Russian invasion and the Peace of Fredrikshamn in 1809 Sweden ceded the Grand Duchy and the Aland Islands to Russia. Alexander I guaranteed to Finland the preservation of its Laws, Constitution and Religion, and this pledge was solemnly renewed to the Finnish Diet by every Czar including Nicholas II.

FOOTNOTE: Finland, land of woods and hundreds of beautiful lakes is ruled by the Czar of Russia, with the title of the Grand Duke of Finland. The Senate at Helsingfors, the capital, make their own laws as to some extent they have a government of their own. The Finlanders are chiefly farmers, dairymen, and lumbermen. They are far more thrifty and better educated than the Russians. *Carpenter's Geographical Reader, c. 1890.*



1891 - 50 PENNIÄ - OBVERSE

FINLAND, GRAND DUCHY of
HELSINGFORS MINT

50 PENNIÄ 18.6 MM .750 FINE 2.55 GRAMS

1889	312,000
1890	691,776
1891	282,136
1892	344,984
1893	400,825
1907	257,911
1908	353,436
1911	616,000

▲OV: Crowned Double Headed Imperial Russian Eagle with Finish Arms, rampant lion holding sword and walking on a sword, on breast, L below to right.

▲RV: 50 / PENNIÄ / DATE within oak wreath tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = HELSINGFORS

MINTMASTER: L = Conrad Lihr 1889-1912

TYPE: IV - Small letter denomination / L for Lihr

REFERENCE: Y-5

POPULATION: Finland - 1892 - 2,400,000 with capital Helsingfors with 67,000 inhabitants.

FOOTNOTE: Finland has for internal communications a remarkable system of lakes connected with each other and with the Gulf of Finland by canals. *The Statesman's Year-Book, London, 1916.*

FOOTNOTE: The chief trade of Finland is with Russia.



1891 - 50 PENNIÄ - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: The unit of value of Finland is the markka, equal to the French franc and the same standards as the Latin Monetary Union and worth 19.3 U.S. cents in 1910. 100 penniä = 1markka.

FOOTNOTE: In 1899 the Russification of Finland was carried on under the auspices of the notorious Plehve, who was made Secretary for Finland. Between 1900 and 1902 the incorporation of the Finnish Army was decreed, Russian was made the language of Higher Administration. By 1903 Governor-General Bobrikov was invested with dictatorial powers and proceeded to suppress freedom of assembly and the press and to exile the most prominent leaders of the opposition. On June 16, 1904 Bobrikov was assassinated. He was succeeded by Prince Obolenski. In 1905 the Constitutionalists and the Social Democrats formed a coalition, and taking advantage of trouble in St.Petersburg, succeeded in winning certain concessions from Russia, including freedom of the press, the deposition of Russian officials, and the reorganization of the Diet with universal suffrage. Trouble was renewed in 1908 when the Russian Government again attempted to curtail the powers of the Finnish Diet and in 1910 the *Imperial Legislation Law* was passed depriving the Diet of its right to legislate on such questions as the imposition of taxes, police direction, schools, and the control of the press. In 1910 the population was 3,030,400 for Finland including 136,497 inhabitants of Helsingfors, the capital. *New International Yearbook, 1910.*



1882 - 50 PENNIÄ



1916 - 50 PENNIÄ - OBVERSE

FINLAND, GRAND DUCHY of
HELSINGFORS MINT

50 PENNIÄ 18.6 MM .750 FINE 2.55 GRAMS

1914	600,000
1915	1,000,000
1916	4,752,000
1917	3,972,000

▲OV: Crowned Double Headed Imperial Russian Eagle with Finish Arms, rampant lion holding sword and walking on a sword, on breast, S below to right.

▲RV: 50 / PENNIÄ / within oak wreath tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = HELSINGFORS

MINTMASTER: S = I.G.Sundell 1912-1947

TYPE: V - Small letter denomination / S for Sundell.

REFERENCE: Y-5



1917 With Crown



1917 - 50 PENNIÄ - OBVERSE

FINLAND, REPUBLIC of
HELSINKI MINT

50 PENNIÄ 18.6 MM .750 FINE 2.55 GRAMS

1917 573,387

^OV: Double Headed Eagle (without crown) with Finish Arms, rampant lion holding sword and walking on a sword, on breast, S below to right.

^RV: 50 / PENNIÄ / 1917 within oak wreath tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = HELSINKI

MINTMASTER: S = I.G.Sundell 1912-1947

TYPE: VI - Without crown

REFERENCE: Y-31, *Suomen Rahat: Katalog Over Finska Mynt Och Sedlar, Helsinki 1974.*

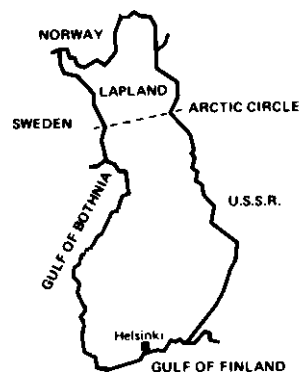
FOOTNOTE: Helsingfors is the capital and chief city of the Grand Duchy of Finland. It is the center not only of the political life but of the educational, literary, and artistic life of Finland. The Russians have taken pains to make Helsingfors' strong, strategic position, impregnable from the military point of view. The entrance to the inner harbor is so narrow that only one ship at a time can pass between the frowning rocks, and the murderous guns of the forts are so mounted that they can be turned against the foe, whether he approach by land or sea...Finland has four important commercial ports - Abo, Hango, Helsingfors, and Viborg. The two former are available in winter, for though not ice free, the ice breakers can usually plow their way through and reach their berths in the course of time. Helsingfors and Viborg, however, are usually impossible in the winter time. *The Charm of Scandinavia, F.E.&S.A. Clark, Boston, 1914.*



1917 - 50 PENNIÄ - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: This issue was struck at Helsinki from old dies with the *crown* removed to indicate the independence of Finland from Russia. The coins date 1917 were issued both with the *crown* and without the *crown*.

FOOTNOTE: Finland proclaimed her independence December 9, 1917. Her independence was recognized by practically all the European powers immediately and by the Russian Soviet Government on January 9, 1918. Civil War immediately broke out between the Red Guards (Bolshevik) and the White Guards (Pro-German under General Mannerheim). General Mannerheim enlisted German aid for the Constitutionalists after Great Britain and Sweden declined assistance. 40,000 German troops were landed at Hango, April 1918 and destroyed Russian warships in Finnish harbors and occupied Helsingfors (which was renamed Helsinki) and Viborg. Prince Freberich Karl of Hesse was elected King of Finland in October but, with the surrender of Germany to the Allies in November and the consequent withdrawal of German troops from Finland, General Mannerheim was elected Regent December 11, 1918. Finland became a Republic under the Constitutional Law of July 17, 1919 and K.J.Stahlberg was elected President.



Finland today