

# Golden years

Costco carries a line of precious metal bars and coins

by GORDON CRAIGIE



## COSTCO CONNECTION

Gold minted bars, silver cast bars and gold coins are available in sealed and tamper-resistant packaging in Costco warehouses.

BAIRD & CO.

**T**hey may say that all that glitters is not gold, but Costco is here to dispel that notion. Complementing Costco's gold and platinum jewellery is a range of gold bullion—a pure form of gold—which is available in bars and 1oz Britannia and full sovereign gold coins.

And you don't have to make space for huge gold bars under your bed, as they're available in 20g, 50g, 100g and 500g bars. Costco's bullion bars are minted in London by Baird & Co., and are produced to the

internationally recognised 999.9 standard—this is a measurement of fineness, and 999.9 means that your Costco gold bullion is generally considered to be “pure” gold.

“We chose to work directly with Baird & Co., as they are the UK's largest gold refinery and are one of the UK's leading bullion traders. As a refinery we therefore are working directly at source and can pass on our savings to members,” says Victoria Knott, an assistant buyer of precious metals.

If gold isn't your thing, cast silver bars from Baird & Co. are also available. They're produced to the same 999.0 standard and may be a more affordable, yet equally beautiful, choice. David O'Neill, head of trading at Baird & Co., tells the *Connection*, “precious metals have always been regarded as the prudent choice by anyone looking to protect and grow their wealth, as much now as at any time in recent years.”

While it's wise to consider that the value of investments may go down as well as up, and that silver prices can be more volatile than gold, the long-term trends on both precious metals tend to suggest that values will rise steadily over time. Over the last 10 years the price of gold has increased by around 30%.

“Gold can be bought as an investment as well as a unique gift for birthdays or other special occasions,” says Knott, explaining the broad appeal of these items. “For example, choosing a gold sovereign for a wedding gift is something that can become a family heirloom. And, gold is given as a traditional gift marking certain occasions in some religions.”

Regardless of the reason, the gold coins and gold and silver bars available in Costco warehouses are sure to brighten the recipient's day for years to come. ■

Gordon Craigie is a feature writer and author based in Dundee, Scotland's sunniest city!

## About Baird & Co.

Costco supplier Baird & Co. ([bairdmint.com](http://bairdmint.com)) is a London-based bullion merchant dealing in gold, silver, plati-

num, palladium and rhodium. It was founded by the late Tony Baird in 1967 and remains an independent, family-owned business. “Our relationship with

Costco has been a close one that benefits both sides,” says David O'Neill, head of trading at Baird & Co. “We look forward to growing the business together with Costco.”—GC