

COINS FOR LIBERTY -- The Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island in New York Harbor are featured on three commemorative coins authorized by the U.S. Congress to be produced by the United States Mint. The five-dollar gold coin (top) features the head of the statue on the obverse and the American Eagle on the reverse. It is the first U.S. five-dollar gold piece to be minted in over 50 years. The silver one-dollar coin (middle) commemorates Ellis Island as the "Gateway to America" on the obverse and Liberty's torch on the reverse. Included are the words "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free"-- from the famous sonnet by American poet Emma Lazarus inscribed on the pedestal of the statue. The half-dollar coin (bottom) pictures a ship of immigrants steaming into New York harbor with the Statue of Liberty greeting them on the obverse, and on the reverse is a scene of an immigrant family standing amidst their belongings on the threshold of America. Profits from the sale of the coins are used for the restoration and renovation of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. (85-3819-C)

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