

## Your Guide to investing in Gold & Silver

A complete guide to getting started with precious metals, whether you're an experienced investor or just starting out.



## Gold & Silver investment opportunity

### Why Gold and Silver?

The need to own precious metals is as relevant and essential today as it has been throughout history.

Gold and silver have always been the ultimate safe haven assets, providing the protection your finances need in today's unstable world. Savvy investors are shifting their wealth into alternative asset classes such as gold, silver, commercial property and renewable energy, in order to diversify and balance their portfolio.

Diversification in this way provides security against economic, social and political uncertainty. If anything, the economic and political climate we find ourselves in today is more unstable than at any point during our lifetime. Several European economies are struggling to repay their vast debts, posing a huge threat to the future of the Euro currency, in a situation that looks set to continue for some time.

In addition to gold and silver providing portfolio insurance when the markets are most volatile, there are also huge tax advantages with gold and silver investments.

Certain coins are free from both VAT and Capital Gains Tax - a real bonus given that VAT is currently 20% and CGT ranges from 18% to 28%.

Gold bullion also qualifies for UK pensions, where you can receive up to 45% discount through tax relief. We have partnered with a large number of the UK's leading SIPP providers to offer choice and flexibility for your retirement plans with our Pension Gold product. Gold and silver investments can be made as a one-off purchase, a regular savings opportunity or as part of a sophisticated portfolio. They're suitable for both seasoned portfolio builders and those with little or no investment experience. In this guide we will introduce, in more detail, the benefits of investing in gold and silver and the various, efficient ways in which you can do so.



### **Physical Gold Limited**

Established in 2008, Physical Gold Limited is a member of the British Numismatic Trade Association, the National Association of Pension Funds and the Institute of Financial Planners, which means you can be safe in the knowledge that we are one of the top precious metal traders in the UK. At Physical Gold, we pride ourselves on making gold and silver investment available to everyone - from sophisticated high net worth investors, to those just looking to buy a single coin to pass down to their grandchildren.

### Why use Physical Gold Limited?

In these turbulent times, even the most sophisticated investors are seeking simplicity, safety and transparency.

At Physical Gold we believe in these key values, so our gold products and the investment process are straightforward and accessible to everyone.

• We provide a bespoke service, with a dedicated gold consultant and tailored client experience for a more personal involvement with your wealth and your future We provide innovative gold solutions - suitable for novice and seasoned investors alike

- Insured storage or delivery options - offering flexibility, for your peace of mind
- Significant buying power enabling us to pass on bulk savings and maintain lower prices
- We offer a buy-back guarantee future proofing your investment and removing the worry of investing
- BNTA accredited providing you with the reassurance that we are experts in what we do.

## Gold as an asset

## Gold gave rise to the concept of money itself: portable, private and permanent

#### HISTORY

Gold's unique properties of scarcity & beauty, coupled with the ease in which it can be melted, formed and measured, have made it a tradable store of wealth since the very earliest civilisations.

Today, investors recognise that gold is not only a means for capital appreciation, but also a way to secure their long term savings and retirement.

#### PAST PERFORMANCE

In the last ten years, the price of gold has risen by nearly 300%,

even after including the price corrections of 2013 and 2015. This has been driven by factors such as a continually weakening US Dollar, the global credit crunch, terror attacks, political unrest and soaring demand from Central Banks and institutional investors. Any event that causes uncertainty in the economy and the wider world, drives the gold price higher. The average annual return for UK holders of gold over the last decade (2005-2014) has been 15% - outperforming every other asset class in the same period. Gold was the best performing asset in 4 of those 10 years, yielding higher returns than shares, bonds and even housing. More importantly, as a store of wealth, it has outperformed inflation in all but 2 of those 10 years - again, the best of any asset class.

#### **GOLD PRICE FORECAST**

As well as yielding impressive returns in the past, the fundamental reasons for gold's performance are still in place. These include:

- Increased demand for gold from investors looking for a safe haven, as the Euro continues to weaken and is close to collapse.
- Investors seeking protection from a potential rise in inflation - driven by spiralling demand for limited fossil fuels and commodities coupled with economies which simply recover too quickly and overheat.
- Increased demand from the BRIC countries (Brazil, Russia, India & China) as their economies strengthen and they increase their wealth. The Chinese Central Bank still only holds around 1% of its reserves in gold, compared to over 50% for many other countries.
- Global political instability and terror threats on the West. An international conflict or terror attack will send equity, property and bond markets tumbling and consequently strengthen the gold market.
- No new supply since precious metals supply is finite and there have been no new major discoveries since 2007.

## Silver as an asset

### Silver demand for industrial purposes will increase by 36% by 2016

#### HISTORY

Whilst gold frequently takes the headlines, it is in fact silver which has been the predominant monetary metal throughout history.

Much of silver's use is roughly split three ways between silverware and jewellery, photographic and other industrial uses. However, an increasing number of investors now purchase physical silver alongside gold, when confidence is low in central bank issued fiat money.

#### PAST PERFORMANCE

Silver has exploded in the precious metals market, especially after the financial meltdown in 2008. In 2009 alone, silver investment increased by 184%. In several of its uses, such as medicinal and photographic applications, the silver can only be used once before becoming redundant. This means that the total amount of silver available in the world reduces each day. It's easy to understand why the potential for capital growth in silver is significant.

#### SILVER PRICE FORECAST

After a price correction over the past couple of years, silver represents a fantastic buying opportunity. If you missed out on the rises of 2009, buying at the current low price can deliver great potential for both attractive investment returns and increased diversification.

Traditionally and generally speaking, the ratio between the gold and silver price has always been around 12:1. This means it took 12 ounces of silver to buy 1 ounce of gold. That ratio is now approximately 60:1 - this bucks the established, historical ratio between the two metals over the past one hundred years and suggests that silver is massively undervalued.

Demand for silver is surging due to its combined appeal as a tangible safe haven asset and its various industrial uses. Many financial analysts, investing experts and even geologists have one opinion in common: a silver shortage is upon us.

According to metal experts, despite the lack of global stockpiles, new technology will continue to discover more industrial applications for silver, increasing the demand on world supplies. Right in line with this assertion, the Silver Institute predicts that silver demand for industrial purposes will increase by 36% by 2016.

Industrial silver demand makes a lack of supply more critical than gold, because it is required rather than simply desired. Silver has been utilised, and consequently mined, for decades in order to fulfil those needs. Factors which influence people to buy gold, also influence people to buy silver:

- Huge levels of Sovereign debt and paper money printing devalues traditional currencies
- Political unrest in various global regions further destabilises markets
- Savvy investors then look elsewhere for security; specifically, the precious metals sector
- In times of recession, depression and overwhelming uncertainty, investors have few viable options.



## Portfolio insurance and balance

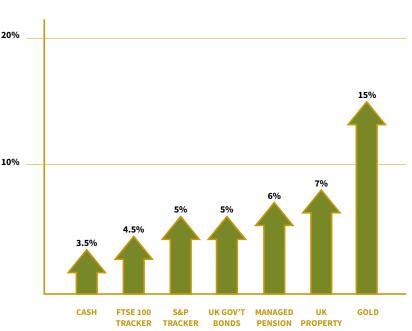
### Gold and silver mean 'safety' in any language

More investors than ever before are adding gold and silver to their investment portfolios as a diversification strategy, due to the fragile nature of paper investments and currencies.

The expert consensus is that 5% -30% of your total portfolio should be in gold or silver, for long term preservation and growth.

Most people's wealth is stored in a mixture of property (their homes), cash (their savings accounts) and stocks and bonds (their pensions). The risk, when holding these assets alone, is that when one performs badly they all perform similarly, as we experienced in the aftermath of the market collapse and recession of 2008.

In contrast, gold and silver are not tied to the economy, nor do they correlate with these more commonly held assets. When the above mentioned assets perform badly, gold and silver can perform well. In this way, gold and silver can yield returns when you need them the most – when your other assets are losing value. This is why gold and silver are referred to as "portfolio insurance."



#### **TYPICAL AVERAGE ANNUAL RETURNS OVER PAST 10 YEARS**

Gold and silver are also the ultimate safe havens in a crisis. Inflation, political strife, on-going wars and the threat of terrorism are affecting investors worldwide. Whilst these events cause turmoil and uncertainty in the markets, the gold and silver prices can spike - as investors look for a secure store for their wealth. Finally, physical gold and silver are directly owned, tangible possessions with intrinsic value. There are none of the risks associated with derivatives and paper assets and they don't rely on an underlying company or business to derive their worth. Their value can never be zero.

Gold and silver preserve wealth.

## Gold and Silver as alternatives to cash

## Bank deposits are being squeezed by inflation

Cash savers are seeing their wealth seriously eroded over time - with interest rates held at historically low levels, the value of their money is being squeezed by inflation.

Many savers feel the interest rate they receive on bank deposits isn't sufficient to compensate for the risk of the bank going under.

Proactive investors are taking steps to address this by turning to gold and silver - stores of wealth that are as secure as cash, as easy to access and offer higher returns. Some key reasons why gold and silver are great alternatives to cash:

- Investments can start from as little as £250
- Liquid investment. Gold and silver can be bought, and sold, one coin (or bar) at a time - so you can build up your holding over time and release some cash when you need to, without having to sell the entire investment
- Flexible investment. You are not locked in for a period of time and can sell your gold and silver at any time you choose

- Higher returns. Gold and silver have historically delivered higher returns than cash on deposit at a bank
- Security. Physical gold and silver are a directly owned, tangible asset – avoiding the risk of the bank going bust

The bottom line is that both gold and silver are not only money themselves, but the safest type of money - because they're not tied to a specific country or currency. They are liquid and their value is recognised worldwide.



## Gold and Silver as a tax free investment

### Solutions which allow you to keep all your profits

As well as being a secure store of wealth and a great alternative to cash, physical gold also has the advantage of being a totally tax free investment:

#### VAT EXEMPT

All purchases of physical gold in the UK are currently VAT exempt - a significant saving with VAT currently at 20%. Our silver purchases are stored in the Channel Islands, meaning they are also exempt from VAT.

#### **NO CAPITAL GAINS TAX**

By investing in certain gold coins, such as UK Sovereigns and Britannias, you will avoid paying any Capital Gains Tax as they are still technically legal tender in the UK. The rate of Capital Gains Tax payable ranges from 18% to 28%, so this is another significant saving for savvy investors.

#### **PENSION GOLD**

Gold bullion is a SIPP (Self Invested Personal Pension) acceptable investment. If you invest via a SIPP you could qualify for up to 45% tax relief and all capital appreciation is shielded from tax under the pension umbrella. What's more, a SIPP allows you to take control of your pension by holding alternative assets, such as gold bullion and property, in the same tax-free shelter as traditional paper assets - like stocks and shares.

Unlike ISAs, there are no annual limits to investments in tax free coins.

## Choosing your investment

### Four investment choices

#### **1 SIPP GOLD**

Physical Gold Ltd provides the exclusive chance to own gold bullion bars as part of a Self Invested Personal Pension (SIPP). We have partnered with a large number of the UK's leading SIPP providers, to offer a wide choice of pension options. You will be allocated retail-size, gold bullion bars which will be held in a fully-insured, precious metals depository.

You will receive the same tax relief on the gold as you would any other pension assets. So if you're a higher rate taxpayer, this can mean an incredible 45% discount off the gold price. If you're looking for a long term investment and security for your future, pension gold offers the best value for money.

#### 2 TAX-FREE GOLD COINS

All investment grade gold is VAT exempt, plus UK legal tender coins are also Capital Gains Tax (CGT) free. Physical Gold specialises in sourcing Sovereign and Britannia gold coins (UK legal tender) from as little as one coin, up to investments of £1million or more. These coins are globally recognised, hugely liquid, divisible and a great heirloom. Many of our customers and consultants view these coins as an alternative store of wealth to an ISA, due to their tax efficient nature – with no minimum or maximum amount!

#### **3 VAT-FREE SILVER BARS**

Exclusive to Physical Gold, is the opportunity to own physical silver without incurring the VAT charge. Up until now, you were forced to compromise, with either inferior electronic silver ownership (to avoid paying VAT), or face paying 20% extra when you purchase physical silver. Now there's no need to compromise. We offer the opportunity to invest in your own pure silver bars - held on your behalf in a high-security vault in the Channel Islands, thus avoiding VAT. Your silver is kept separate and fully insured at the vault. This solution really offers the best of both worlds.

#### **4 GOLD SAVINGS**

We can accommodate investors however modest their means: Our Gold Savings solution helps you gradually build a nest-egg, with your very own solid gold, regular savings plan. Why save exclusively with paper money which is susceptible to the erosive powers of inflation - when you can balance such risks by saving in gold? Simply use our Standing Order form to make monthly or quarterly investments, which are automatically debited from your bank. In return, you receive the equivalent value in tax-free gold. You'll be surprised at how quickly your gold will accumulate.



## Getting started

### 5 simple steps to Gold and Silver ownership....

### **1 CONSULTATION**

Discuss your investment choice and budget with your Physical Gold consultant.

#### 2 INVESTMENT INSTRUCTION

Complete the relevant Investment Instruction for your choice and return a copy to your consultant.

#### **3 PAYMENT**

Payment is made by yourself for cash investments or by the Pension Trustee for SIPP transactions.

### 4 DELIVERY/STORAGE

Upon receipt of funds, the gold can either be sent to your address by recorded, insured delivery or stored on your behalf in specialist vaults.\*

#### 5 CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY

You will receive a Certificate of Authenticity\*\* and all supporting documentation for your investment.

- Subject to minimum holdings and charges
- \*\* Excluding Gold Savings

# The next steps to a balanced portfolio

## It's never too late to secure your wealth and future

We work with investors of all types; from those just starting their portfolio or savings, to more experienced individuals looking for gold and silver diversification. You can take the next step to a harder working portfolio today, by contacting Physical Gold through any of the channels below:

#### CONTACT US TODAY

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