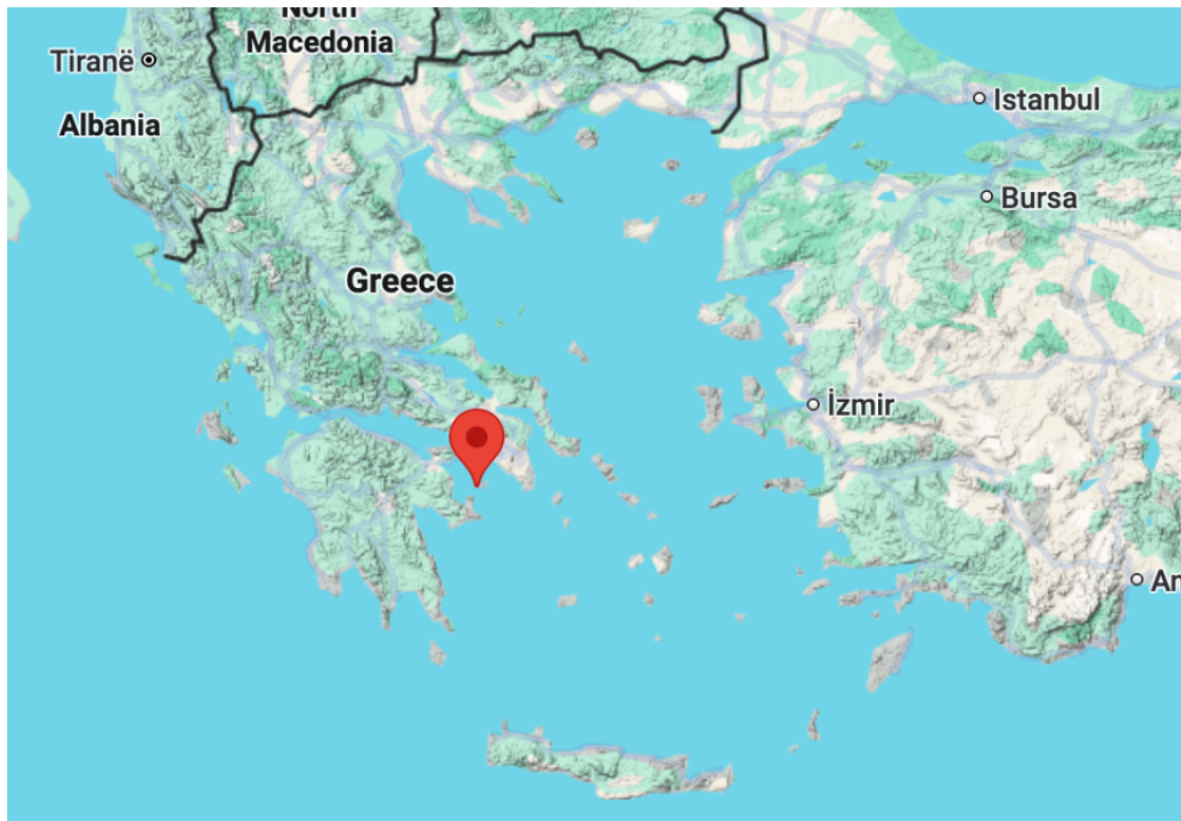


Coins of Aegina



General Overview

- Aegina is an island located in the Saronic Gulf off the coast of Athens and the northeastern Peloponnese.
- Maritime trade facilitated the island's economic prosperity.
- Coin minting technology likely spread from Asia Minor, through Aegina, to city-states in "European Greece" or mainland Greece.

Chronology of Coin Production

- Mid-6th century BCE: Aegina began minting silver coinage.
 - Most Aegean islands adopted the Aeginetan weight standard during this period (declined by 4th century BCE).
- 4th century BCE: Aegina began issuing bronze coinage.
- 2nd century CE: Minting ceased by the Severan Emperors of the Roman Empire.



Location of coin hoards with coins minted by Aegina. Source: [Inventory of Greek Hoards](#) (IGCH).

Iconography of the Coins



- Obverse: Sea turtle (earlier) or tortoise (later).
- Reverse: Mill sail incuse punch.
 - Small dolphin and legend “AIG” (abbreviation of Aegina) added around mid-4th century BCE.

Further Reading

Kraay, Colin M. 1976. “Aegina, the Aegean Islands, and Crete.” In *Archaic and Classical Greek Coins*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Sheedy, Kenneth. 2012. “Aegina, the Cyclades, and Crete.” In *The Oxford Handbook of Greek and Roman Coinage*, edited by William Metcalf. Oxford: Oxford University Press.