

The Dodo

Synopsis

Material Highlights

Mauritius 1965 1 Rupee (Dodo) definitive with pale orange omitted. RPSL certificate on reverse of page.

Mauritius 1950 Harrison and Sons, Ltd. presentation card for 1950 KGVII definitive series.

Mauritius 1987 Festival International of the Sea 25c value die proofs.

Main References

Anthes, Emily; *The Smart, Agile, and Completely Underrated Dodo*; The Atlantic; June 8, 2016.

Claessens, Leon, and others; *Anatomy of the Dodo: An Osteological Study of the Thirioux Specimens*; Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology; Volume 35 – Supplement 1 (2015).

Hume, Julian; *Painting the Dodo*; YouTube (Natural History Museum); March 30, 2011;
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6cu1YfWyTQ>

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.; *Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue Commonwealth & British Stamps 1840-1970*; 2013 (115th Edition).

Wawrukiewicz, Anthony S. and Beecher, Henry W.; *U.S. International Postal Rates, 1872-1996; 1996*; CAMA Publishing Company.

Wikipedia; Dodo; retrieved December 31, 2018.

The Dodo

The dodo, the well-known extinct flightless bird that was endemic to the island of Mauritius, has been long viewed as a walking evolutionary error, preordained to die out. When the Dutch arrived on Mauritius in 1598, this earthbound oddity toddled straight into the waiting arms of hungry sailors and settlers. In less than 100 years it was extinct.

That's how the story usually goes. The only problem is, that it's mostly false. Over the last several years, anatomical and ecological studies have shed new light on the dodo and its history. This exhibit presents an analysis of the dodo in this new light.



Despite being incorporated into the Mauritius coat of arms in 1906, the dodo does not make its first appearance on a postage stamp until the 1950 KGVI definitive series. International surface rate shown (25c per ounce), with a very appropriate Phoenix cancel.

Exhibit Plan

- Where Exactly is Mauritius?
- Etymology of the Word "Dodo"
- Scientific Names
- Description
- Remains and Scientific Study
- Revised Description (and Environment & Diet)
- Extinction
- Related Species
- Cultural References

Where Exactly is Mauritius?

Mauritius is 600 miles east of Madagascar.



"The Crossroads of the Indian Ocean"