

# Collect Planes?

by John F. Dunn

The aircraft industry is taking a double hit these days, what with Boeing's quality control problems and the loss of travelers due to the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent fear of flying.

While space flight, particularly manned space flight, has taken some of the attention away, the development of the airplane and the contributions it has made are subjects that remain widely followed in movies, on television and nowadays in the social media. Airplanes also remain popular with stamp collectors and, as a result, with postal administrations. This includes the United States Postal Service whose most recent examples include the 1918 celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Air Mail Service, not to overlook the 2013

Airmail Inverted Jenny issue and the valuable "Un-Invert" varieties, many of which remain undiscovered today.

The USPS is not alone in the acknowledgement of airplanes as an important as well as popular subject. For a quick sampling of how others approach the subject, I turned to the website of the Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corp. of New York, which represents more than 70 postal administrations and assists many in the development of new issues that will appeal to collectors as well as mailers.

Shown here is a sampling of issues on the site, [www.igpc.com](http://www.igpc.com)—with even more that go back for a number of years and are still available.



A 2018 souvenir sheet from the Canouan Grenadines of St. Vincent depicts a familiar subject, the first U.S. Airmail issue.



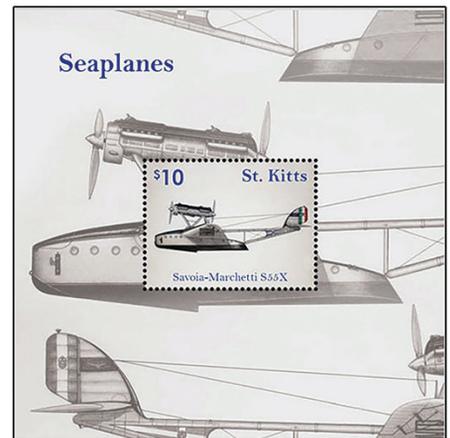
The role of the airplane in warfare as well as in service is marked on a 2018 set of stamps from Guernsey



In similar fashion, many island nations depend on local airlines for transportation and supply needs, a subject that is recognized by Montserrat on a 2016 souvenir sheet.



Flight pioneers is another category. Featured on our front cover is a 2013 Grenada souvenir sheet honoring the achievements of Amelia Earhart.



Still another popular collecting approach is by models, in this case a Savoia-Marchetti S55X on a St. Kitts souvenir sheet.

For more information on these and other issues, please go to the IGPC website, [www.igpc.com](http://www.igpc.com).

# Collect Trains?

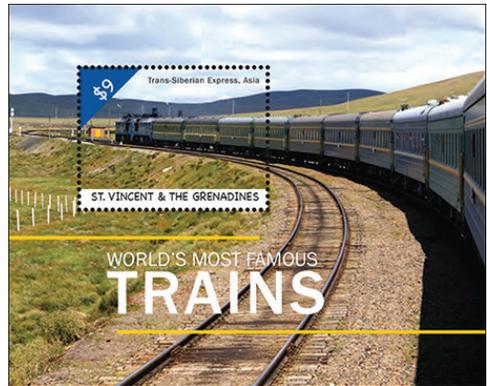
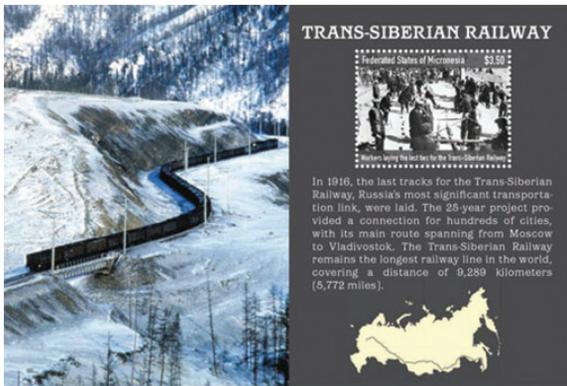
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Ships go back further and may be more historic, planes and rockets are more exciting, and auto makes and models are more recognizable—but what means of transportation is there than Trains?

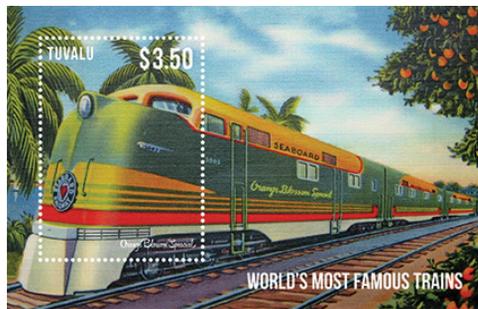
If you already collect Trains on Stamps, or might want to explore the possibilities, the Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corp. is a leader in the

issuance and promotion of Topical stamps. IGPC has orchestrated some outstanding Trains omnibus programs, and their still-available inventory includes issues going back to the 1990s.

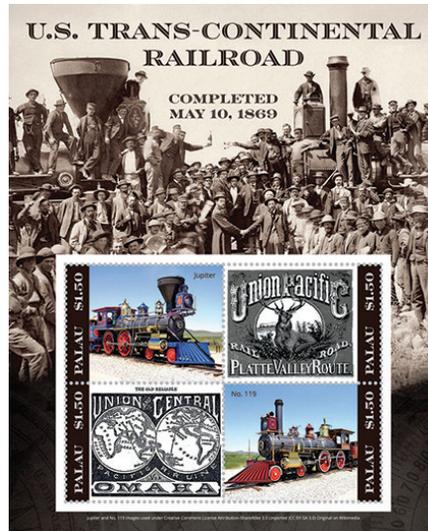
Shown here is a sampling of issues from their comprehensive website, [www.igpc.com](http://www.igpc.com).



The name alone evokes images of intrigue and adventure, the Trans-Siberian Railway is seen on 2014 issues from Micronesia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.



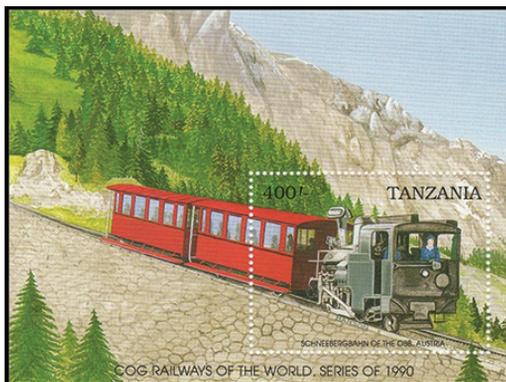
Another glamorous train from the past is the Orange Blossom Special, which ran during the winter from New York City to Miami—seen here on a 2014 issue from Tuvalu.



One of a number of issues that celebrated for the 150th Anniversary of the “Golden Spike” is seen on this 2019 Palau souvenir sheet.



A specialty within the Trains category is Locomotives, such as the 1857 steam engine pictured on this 2014 issue from Nevis.



Another popular sub-category is Cog Railways, seen here on a still-available 1990 sheetlet from Tanzania.



An example of the issues that can be included in a Trains collection is this 2013 Grand Central Terminal issue from Palau.

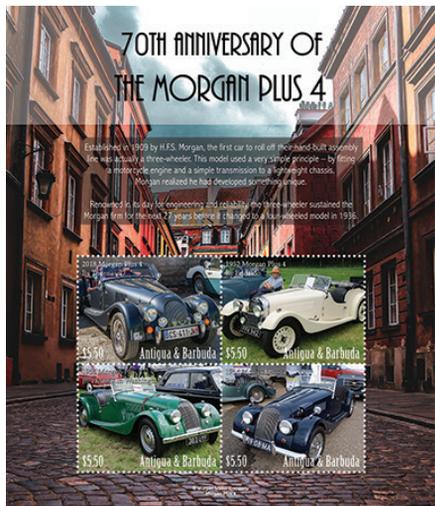
For more information on these and other Topical issues, please go to the IGPC website, [www.igpc.com](http://www.igpc.com).

# Collect Automobiles?

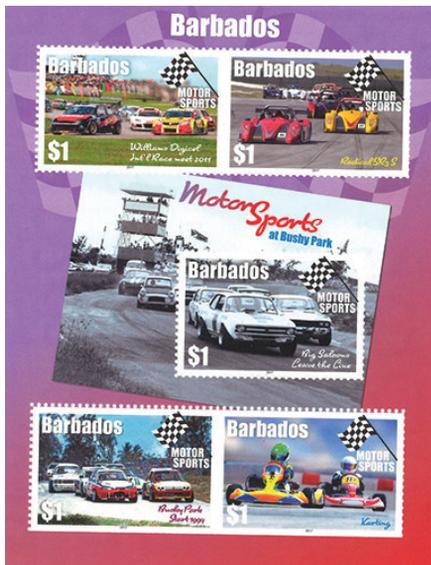
by John F. Dunn

Of all the means of transportation, automobiles are by far the most varied, with scores of manufacturers and regular model changes as well as new model introductions. As the most widely known around the world, it also stands to reason that autos on stamps are a very popular topic, not only with collectors, but with stamp designers and postal administrations.

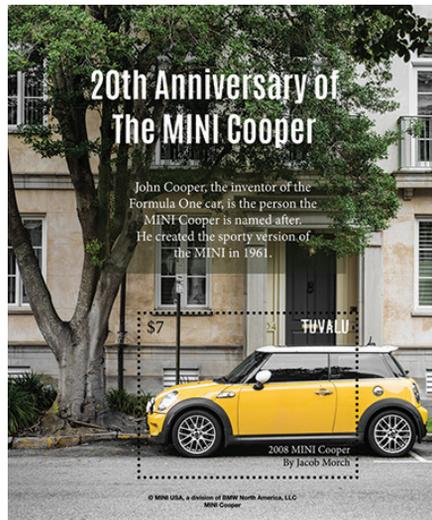
If you already collect, or might want to start collecting, Autos on Stamps, Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corp. is a leader in the issuance and promotion of Topicals. Shown here is a sampling of the issues. For others going as far back as 1984, go to the Inter-Governmental website, [www.igpc.comcom](http://www.igpc.comcom).



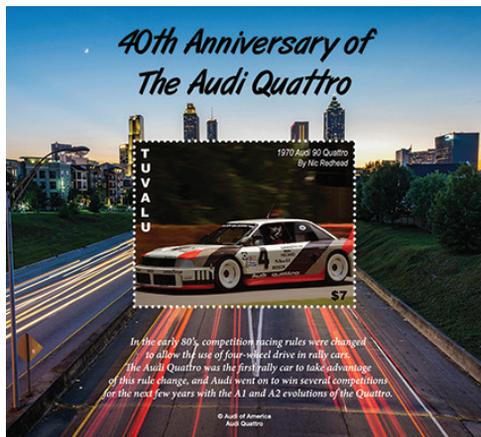
As explained on this souvenir sheet, the Morgan started as a three wheeler, the first four-wheeler coming off their line in 1936.



For a different take on Autos on Stamps, many nations have issued stamps for various racing and rally competitions.



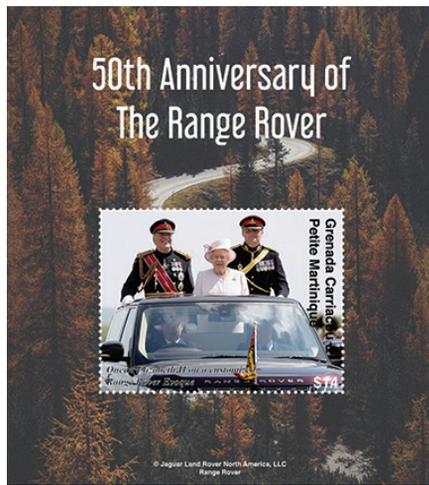
An example of a variation on a theme is this sporty Mini Cooper model.



Although we selected primarily British made autos here, one example of the many other famous manufacturers on stamps is Audi, in this case with a racing version of the Quattro.



Rovers are among the world's most widely known autos, with one version being the Range Rover.



One of the reasons they are so widely known and used is their status as the official car of the British Royal family, which means that they are renowned throughout the British Commonwealth, as well as many other nations including the United States.



Here we see two Commonwealth issues, the closest picturing Queen Elizabeth II in a Range Rover Official Review Vehicle. Far left is a sheetlet that includes a hand-drawn depiction of the Queen in a Review Vehicle.

# How About Ships?

by John F. Dunn

Despite real world advances in transportation, with space travel being the latest frontier, Ships on Stamps remains one of the most popular collecting topics. Indeed, the American Topical Association provides checklists with thousands of ship stamps, listed in 19 categories, from Brigantines to Towboats.

While it might be surprising at first, when you think about it, Ships on Stamps presents transportation from the earliest forms, such as rafts—long before the invention of the locomotive, automobile, airplane or space crafts—right on up to modern ocean liners, cruise ships and rescue vehicles.

The United States has issued its share of Ships stamps, for the SS Adriatic, an 1850s steamer on the 12¢ 1869 Pictorial (Sc. 117) to the lat-



est rendition of a *Mayflower* stamp, due this September 17, for the 400th Anniversary of the arrival on the Pilgrims.

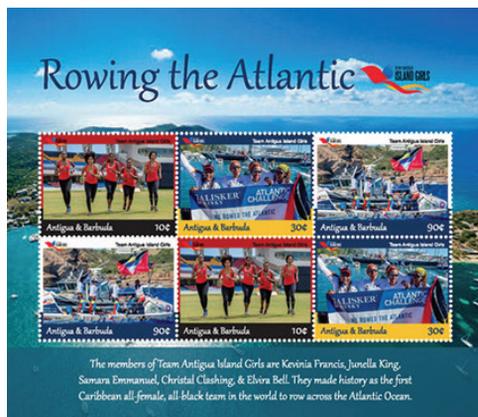
While the waterways throughout the United States are many, and we enjoy a rich history on the high seas, in peace and war, small island nations in particular are even more dependent on ships. You can explore

on your own; for a quick sampling, I turned to the website of the Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corp. of New York, which represents more than 70 postal administrations and assists many in the development of new issues that will appeal to collectors as well as mailers.

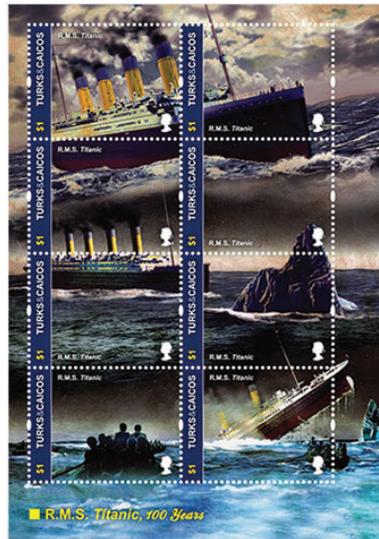
Shown here is a sampling of issues on the site, [www.igpc.com](http://www.igpc.com)—with even more that go back decades and are still available.



A 2020 issue from The Gambia features Famous Shipwrecks, with brief background on each, including a description of the wreck.



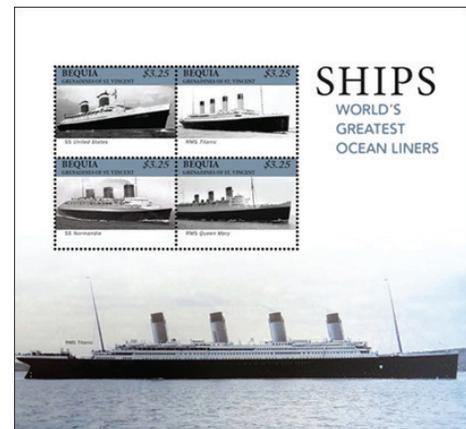
On a happy note, we see here a 2020 Antigua & Barbuda sheetlet that honors the members of Team Antigua and celebrates their achievement as the first all female, all black team to row across the Atlantic Ocean.



One of those wrecks in the lower right of the Gambia souvenir sheet is the *Titanic*, which was the subject of a huge omnibus series on the 100th Anniversary of its tragic sinking. Many of the 2012 issues, including this Turks & Caicos sheetlet showing the collision and sinking, are still available on the IGPC website.



Another infamous sinking was the USS *Arizona*, sunk on that December 7, 1941 “date which will live in infamy” as President Roosevelt described the attack on Pearl Harbor. Seen here is the sunken ship at the Pearl Harbor Memorial, on a souvenir sheet issued in 2016 by The Gambia.



Still another category, among the many, is ocean liners, this particular souvenir sheet being a 2013 issue from the Bequia Grenadines of Saint Vincent.