# Standard Chartered launches regulated Bitcoin and Ethereum spot trading for institutional clients



Standard Chartered has taken a significant step in bridging traditional finance and the burgeoning digital asset market by launching a fully integrated spot trading service for Bitcoin and Ethereum. This offering, available through the bank's UK branch, targets institutional clients including corporates, investors, and asset managers. It marks the first time a global systemically important bank has introduced regulated, deliverable spot trading of these major cryptocurrencies via familiar foreign exchange (FX) trading platforms.

Clients can now buy and sell Bitcoin and Ether with near-immediate ownership transfer, leveraging Standard Chartered’s existing infrastructure. The service integrates seamlessly with the bank’s established FX interfaces, allowing institutional clients to access digital asset markets within trusted environments. This approach promises not only ease of use but also the reassurance that comes from dealing with a globally recognised and regulated financial institution. The bank is registered as a crypto asset service provider with the UK’s Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and supports its offering with sophisticated institutional-grade risk management frameworks.

Tony Hall, Standard Chartered’s Global Head of Trading and XVA, Markets, emphasized the bank’s commitment: “We are applying our global expertise, infrastructure and risk management frameworks that our clients trust to the digital assets space. With growing interest in regulated digital assets solutions, we are well-positioned to meet client needs while capturing the opportunities in this space.” The move reflects increasing institutional appetite for digital assets, a trend underscored by regulatory clarity and rising market acceptance.

Industry observers note that the launch is part of a broader cultural and financial realignment. Cryptocurrency market capitalisation recently surpassed $4 trillion, highlighting digital assets’ growing role in global finance. Bitcoin, in particular, achieved an all-time high above $120,000 in mid-2025, spurred by pro-crypto legislation in the US, such as the GENIUS Act and other bills aiming to clarify and regulate digital asset markets. Under the Trump administration, initiatives like the Strategic Bitcoin Reserve have encouraged institutions to reconsider their exposure to cryptocurrencies. Deloitte’s recent white paper on corporate crypto investment shows firms progressively allocat-ing treasury resources to digital assets over the past five years, anticipating that such investments will become routine.

Standard Chartered is also laying the groundwork for expanding its digital asset services. The bank plans to introduce non-deliverable forwards for cryptocurrencies in the near term, broadening the risk management and trading tools available to its clients. Moreover, clients will be able to select from preferred crypto custodians, including Standard Chartered’s own custody solution and partners like Zodia Custody, providing flexibility in how digital assets are held and managed.

This initiative positions Standard Chartered at the forefront of institutional cryptocurrency adoption, setting a precedent for other major banks to introduce similar regulated, scalable crypto trading services. By blending traditional market infrastructure with the digital asset ecosystem, the bank aims to meet the rising demand from institutional investors seeking secure and compliant access to cryptocurrencies.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://gfmag.com/banking/standchart-launches-crypto-spot-trading/), [[2]](https://www.sc.com/en/press-release/standard-chartered-launches-digital-assets-trading-for-institutional-clients/), [[3]](https://www.reuters.com/business/finance/stanchart-launches-bitcoin-ether-spot-trading-institutional-clients-2025-07-15/), [[4]](https://www.ft.com/content/7b3fc985-57e2-4418-b716-ee504d68a961), [[6]](https://decrypt.co/330178/standard-chartered-now-offers-institutional-bitcoin-ethereum-trading-heres-what-it-means), [[7]](https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/standard-chartered-launches-bitcoin-ether-spot-trading-for-institutions-125071501184_1.html)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://gfmag.com/banking/standchart-launches-crypto-spot-trading/), [[2]](https://www.sc.com/en/press-release/standard-chartered-launches-digital-assets-trading-for-institutional-clients/), [[3]](https://www.reuters.com/business/finance/stanchart-launches-bitcoin-ether-spot-trading-institutional-clients-2025-07-15/), [[4]](https://www.ft.com/content/7b3fc985-57e2-4418-b716-ee504d68a961), [[6]](https://decrypt.co/330178/standard-chartered-now-offers-institutional-bitcoin-ethereum-trading-heres-what-it-means)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://gfmag.com/banking/standchart-launches-crypto-spot-trading/), [[6]](https://decrypt.co/330178/standard-chartered-now-offers-institutional-bitcoin-ethereum-trading-heres-what-it-means)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://gfmag.com/banking/standchart-launches-crypto-spot-trading/), [[4]](https://www.ft.com/content/7b3fc985-57e2-4418-b716-ee504d68a961), [[7]](https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/standard-chartered-launches-bitcoin-ether-spot-trading-for-institutions-125071501184_1.html)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://gfmag.com/banking/standchart-launches-crypto-spot-trading/), [[5]](https://cointelegraph.com/news/standard-chartered-bitcoin-ether-trading-institutions), [[7]](https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/standard-chartered-launches-bitcoin-ether-spot-trading-for-institutions-125071501184_1.html)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://gfmag.com/banking/standchart-launches-crypto-spot-trading/), [[3]](https://www.reuters.com/business/finance/stanchart-launches-bitcoin-ether-spot-trading-institutional-clients-2025-07-15/), [[6]](https://decrypt.co/330178/standard-chartered-now-offers-institutional-bitcoin-ethereum-trading-heres-what-it-means), [[7]](https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/standard-chartered-launches-bitcoin-ether-spot-trading-for-institutions-125071501184_1.html)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://gfmag.com/banking/standchart-launches-crypto-spot-trading/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.sc.com/en/press-release/standard-chartered-launches-digital-assets-trading-for-institutional-clients/> - Standard Chartered has launched a fully integrated digital assets trading service for institutional clients, offering spot trading for Bitcoin and Ether through its UK branch. This service is fully integrated with the bank's existing platforms, allowing clients to access and trade crypto assets via familiar foreign exchange interfaces. As a Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)-registered crypto asset service provider, Standard Chartered provides clients with the assurance of dealing with a regulated global bank, supported by robust balance sheet capabilities and institutional-grade risk controls.
3. <https://www.reuters.com/business/finance/stanchart-launches-bitcoin-ether-spot-trading-institutional-clients-2025-07-15/> - Standard Chartered has introduced spot trading for Bitcoin and Ether through its UK branch, targeting institutional clients such as corporates, investors, and asset managers. This makes it the first global systemically important bank to offer regulated, secure, and scalable access to deliverable spot trading of these digital assets. The bank aims to meet increasing demand for cryptocurrency trading and will integrate trading through familiar foreign exchange (FX) platforms. Additionally, it plans to introduce non-deliverable forwards for digital assets in the near future.
4. <https://www.ft.com/content/7b3fc985-57e2-4418-b716-ee504d68a961> - Standard Chartered has become the first major global bank to offer direct spot cryptocurrency trading services, beginning with Bitcoin and Ether paired against the US dollar. Targeted at institutional clients such as corporates, asset managers, and investors, the service launched on July 15, 2025, and will soon include non-deliverable forwards. This move reflects the growing integration of cryptocurrencies into mainstream finance and the increasing demand among traditional financial institutions for crypto-related services.
5. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/standard-chartered-bitcoin-ether-trading-institutions> - Standard Chartered has launched a new trading service allowing institutions and corporations to trade major cryptocurrencies. The bank is rolling out spot trading for Bitcoin (BTC) and Ether (ETH) through its UK branch. The offering will be initially available via Standard Chartered’s UK entity during Asia and Europe trading hours, with 24/5 access under consideration as client demand evolves. Clients can select preferred crypto custodians, including Zodia Custody or the bank’s in-house solution.
6. <https://decrypt.co/330178/standard-chartered-now-offers-institutional-bitcoin-ethereum-trading-heres-what-it-means> - Standard Chartered has become the first 'too big to fail' bank to offer Bitcoin and Ethereum trading through traditional currency platforms, crossing a line that its peers have cautiously approached for years. The bank will run Bitcoin and Ethereum spot trading services for institutional clients from its U.K. branch, enabling them to execute trades through the same foreign exchange systems they already use.
7. <https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/standard-chartered-launches-bitcoin-ether-spot-trading-for-institutions-125071501184_1.html> - Standard Chartered will allow institutional clients to trade Bitcoin and Ether through its UK branch, becoming the first global systemically important bank to offer such crypto services. Institutional clients around the world, including corporates, investors, and asset managers, will be able to conduct spot crypto trading through Standard Chartered's existing platforms, and will soon be offered non-deliverable forwards trading. The bank already offers crypto products, including trading, via two independent subsidiary companies: Zodia Markets and Zodia Custody.