

All Polish collector coins feature:

- face value
- image of the Eagle established as the state emblem of the Republic of Poland
- inscription: Rzeczpospolita Polska
- year of issue



Issuing collector items is an occasion to commemorate important historic figures and anniversaries, as well as to develop the interest of the public in Polish culture, science and tradition.

Collector coins issued by NBP are sold at NBP regional branches and in the NBP online shop.

Information on the issue schedule can be found at the www.nbp.pl/monety website.

Should you have any questions, please contact our consultants at the following phone numbers: +48 22 185 91 59 and +48 22 185 13 03.

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Narodowy Bank Polski

We protect the value of money

NBP

Narodowy Bank Polski

Discover Poland

St. Mary's Basilica



Collector coins

Discover Poland – St. Mary’s Basilica

On 22 May 2020, Narodowy Bank Polski is putting into circulation a coin of the series “Discover Poland” – St. Mary’s Basilica, with a face value of 5 zloty.

It is around the Main Market Square, in the heart of the old royal city of Kraków, that St. Mary’s parish has lived and thrived for 800 years. Its symbol and the place of religious practices by parishioners, citizens and visitors is St. Mary’s Basilica – a church consecrated to the Mother of God.

The first mention of the parish appeared in the 1220s. Sources indicate that its origins are associated with the introduction of the Dominican Friars to Kraków by Bishop Iwo Odrowąż and the transfer of the parish then allocated to them from the Church of the Holy Trinity to St. Mary’s Basilica. As soon as the church’s presbytery was built, they started to hold services there; however, with the congregation growing rapidly, the then church authorities and the city council decided to expand the temple. As the city was developing dynamically, it was upgraded to the role of the city’s parish church and so it has remained until today. Quoting chronicler Jan Długosz: “[...] Hundreds of foundations, patronages, fraternities, communities, craft guilds, councillors, judges, bishops and multinational burghers all tried to generously enrich the mother parish church of Kraków, and the source of Kraków parishes.”

It is also a place where tradition and modernity are smoothly and harmoniously integrated. The saints who have been worshipped here throughout the centuries, such as St. Jude



Face value: 5 zł

Alloy: ring MN25, core CuAl6Ni2

Finish: standard

Diameter: 24.00 mm

Weight: 6.54 g

Edge (side): irregularly milled; on the side an inscription: “NBP”, repeated eight times, every second one inverted by 180°, separated by stars

Mintage: up to 1,200,000 pcs

Designer: Dobrochna Surajewska

Issuer: NBP

The coins, commissioned by NBP, were struck by Mennica Polska S.A.

Thaddeus and St. Anthony of Padua, meet the saints of our times, such as St. John Paul II. That is why new initiatives are also emerging alongside the long-established novena practices. The spiritual vitality of the “Notre Dame de Cracovie” is also evident in the lively Marian communities.

Therefore, the church is more than a historical monument of extraordinary beauty, more than just a building filled with unique and beautiful works of art created by the finest artists. For the followers of Christ, it is a special place that has accompanied many generations of Cracovians in a unique manner.

Katarzyna Pakuła-Major

The reverse of the coin represents a view of the façade of St. Mary’s Basilica in Kraków from the south-east.