

On the obverse, all Polish coins feature:

- face value
- national emblem
- legend: 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.

Information on the issue schedule can be found at [www.nbp.pl/monety](http://www.nbp.pl/monety) website.

Should you have any questions, please contact our consultants at the following phone numbers: +48 22 313 04 44 and +48 801 044 410.

Collector coins issued by NBP are sold at the Internet auctions held in the Kolekcjoner service at the following website: [www.kolekcjoner.nbp.pl](http://www.kolekcjoner.nbp.pl) and at the Regional Branches of NBP.

On 20 November 2013, Narodowy Bank Polski will be putting into circulation collector coins commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the Birth of Hipolit Cegielski with the face values of 200 zloty, 10 zloty and 2 zloty.

Narodowy Bank Polski is the central bank of the State, responsible for its monetary policy and price stability. The Bank's functions are described in the Constitution of the Republic of Poland and the Act on NBP. NBP holds the exclusive right to issue the currency of the Republic of Poland. As the central bank, it does not provide accounts for the general public, accept deposits from or extend loans to individuals. It acts as a banker to the State budget and public sector entities. NBP also holds and manages the foreign exchange reserves of the State. Finally, it functions as a banker to banks, creating conditions for the operation of the Polish banking system. Narodowy Bank Polski is one of the most important research and analytical centres in the fields of economics and financial markets. For more information on NBP visit: [www.nbp.pl](http://www.nbp.pl)

Narodowy Bank Polski

*We protect the value of money*

**NBP** Narodowy Bank Polski

Animals of the World

## Wisent *Bison bonasus*



Collector coins

## Wisent *Bison bonasus*

Wisent is the largest European terrestrial mammal, with the body weight reaching almost 1 tonne in males. The species lives in herds counting sometimes even over fifty individuals. Leaders of such herds are old, experienced females. Wisents feed upon ground flora of the forest, grasses and sedges growing at forest meadows, as well as tree leaves, twigs and bark. They have a very good sense of smell and hearing, but slightly weaker sight, may run with a speed of up to a few dozen kilometres per hour, and jump over obstacles up to 2 metres high. In a herd, wisents are not afraid of any predators, however weaker individuals or calves left behind the herd are likely to fall prey to wolves or bears.

The species was fairly common in forests of medieval Europe, but as very attractive game (in Poland reserved only for sovereigns), it became extirpated in the west of the continent quite early, and survived only at Białowieża Primeval Forest until the end of World War II, and in Caucasus until 1927. Between the two world wars, the restitution of the species was undertaken at Białowieża, on the basis of few individuals that survived in breeding centres and zoos. As a result, all the living wisents originate from only 12 ancestors, which makes them the most inbred species among all the European mammals presently living in the wild.

First wisents were again released to the wild in 1952 in Białowieża. Polish population of this species is the largest in the world – about 1240 individuals out of over 4600 presently living wisents. In our country, except Białowieża, wisents live in the wild in the Knyszyn and the Borecka Forests, at Western Pomerania and in the Bieszczady Mountains. Outside Poland, free ranging wisent herds may be seen in Belarus, Lithuania, Romania, Russia, Slovakia and Ukraine. Rescuing this species from what seemed an almost inevitable extinction is a great achievement of Polish scientists and foresters, and remains a Polish symbol of success in the field of nature conservation.

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On 24 October 2013, Narodowy Bank Polski is putting into circulation Wisent (*Bison bonasus*) coins of the „Animals of the World” series, with the face values of 20 zł and 2 zł.



Face value 20 zł

Metal: Ag 925/1000

Finish: proof

Diameter: 38.61 mm

Weight: 28.28 g

Mintage: up to 35,000 pcs

Obverse designer: Ewa Tyc-Karpińska

Reverse designer: Dobrochna Surajewska

Issuer: NBP

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



Face value 2 zł

Metal: CuAl5Zn5Sn1

Finish: standard

Diameter: 27.00 mm

Weight: 8.15 g

Mintage: up to 1,000,000 pcs

Obverse designer: Ewa Tyc-Karpińska

Reverse designer: Dobrochna Surajewska

Issuer: NBP

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