

On the obverse, all Polish 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.

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

Should you have any questions, please contact our consultants at the following phone numbers: +48 801 111 000 and +48 22 185 44 50.

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

On 11 December 2014 Narodowy Bank Polski will be putting into circulation the coins of the series “History of Polish Popular Music” – Grzegorz Ciechowski, both with the face value of 10 zł.

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## History of Polish Coin

### Bracteate of Leszek the White



Collector coins

## Bracteate of Leszek the White

The end of the 12th century and the whole of 13th century was a period dominated by bracteates, i.e. thin, one-sided coins. At the same time, it was the darkest period in the history of the Polish minting, coinciding with the fragmentation of Poland. It was the time of simultaneous rule over the Polish territory by many princes, each of them minting their own coins. Most of these coins have no inscriptions at all, which makes identification of the issuers extremely difficult. Some aid in this area has been provided by the large coin hoard recently discovered in Cracow, which had been hidden in the first half of the 13th century. From this find comes the bracteate depicting a winged dragon. The coin was most likely struck under the rule of Prince Leszek the White (1206-1227).

The image of a specimen of this very bracteate was placed on the reverse of the new coin, the fifth in our series. The dragon is turned to the left, with its head turned backwards, wings spread out



wide and the tail curled under its body. This monster either symbolises the Prince's power or, perhaps, it was meant to ward off any evil spirits which might threaten the monarch. The outline of the façade of the Late Romanesque Cistercian church in Sulejów was used as the background.

Our coin's obverse also features two groups of elements. On the one hand, the coin particulars including the State emblem and name, face value and the year of issue. On the other hand, the Prince's seal depicting the Prince standing in full armour with a spear and a pennant in one hand and a shield in the other. The legend contains data missing from the bracteate: +SIGIL[LVM] LESTCONIS D-VCIS POLONI-E (the seal of Leszek, Prince of Poland).

*Stanisław Suchodolski*

In March 2015 Narodowy Bank Polski will be putting into circulation a silver coin of the series „History of Polish Coin” – florin of Ladislas the Elbow-high, with the face value of 20 zł.

On 4 December 2014 Narodowy Bank Polski is putting into circulation a coin of the series „History of Polish Coin” – bracteate of Leszek the White, with the face value of 10 zł.



Face value 10 zł

Metal: Ag 925

Finish: proof

Diameter: 32.00 mm

Weight: 14.14 g

Mintage: up to 20,000 pcs



Designer: Dominika Karpińska-Kopiec

Issuer: NBP

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