

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/money](http://www.nbp.pl/money) website.

Should you have any questions, please contact our consultants at the following phone numbers: +48 22 185 91 96 and +48 22 185 91 59.

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

On 22 May 2015 Narodowy Bank Polski will be putting into circulation a coin of the series “Discover Poland” – Bydgoszcz Canal, with the face value of 5 zł.

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History of Polish Coin

## Florin of Ladislas the Elbow-high



Collector coins

## Florin of Ladislav the Elbow-high

The coinage of Ladislav the Elbow-high (1306–1333) has transition features. On the one hand, it is inspired by the previous bracteates period, where small coins reigned. On the other hand, it also exhibits characteristics of a coming groat period. These coins are now not single-sided, thin bracteates anymore, they are double-sided denarii. However, according to Ryszard Kiersnowski, the most famous coin ‘worthy of a place among the most prominent historical monuments of the Polish Middle Ages’ is a florin, called ducat in the past. This is the first Polish coin made in gold, which is ahead for about two hundred years of next issues in this ore.

The obverse shows the king on the throne, with a crown on his head, and a lily sceptre and a reign apple in his hands. Circular inscription: WLADISLAVS D[e]I G[r]atia] REX explains that this is ‘Ladislav, by the Grace of God, the King’.

On the reverse, there is a figure of a standing bishop, with a halo around his head, and a mitre on it. In his left hand he holds a crosier, and he rises the right one to the blessing. As legend holds, S[anctus] STANISLAVS POL[oni]E, is Stanislaus – the saint of Poland.



In the past, this magnificent and unusual coin was associated with the Royal Coronation of Ladislav the Elbow-high in 1320. Ryszard Kiersnowski’s study has shown that the coin was issued later, in 1330 only. It was connected with double indulgence established in honour of Saint Stanislaus (8 May and 27 September) by the Pope. To obtain it, the faithful lodged two foreign golden coins which were in circulation at that time. Ore obtained in this way enabled the king to mint his own coin. It helped him to make war with the Teutonic Knights. The issue was not large and is estimated at several thousand pieces. Only one of them has preserved to our times. This is a pride of Emeryk Hutten-Czapski’s collection which is kept in the National Museum in Cracow.

On the currently minted collector coin, besides the representation of the florin presented here, one can see the portrait of Ladislav the Elbow-high taken from his tomb sculpture situated in the Wawel Cathedral. On the other side of the coin, the king is imaged on his seal of majesty, sitting in state on his throne. This image correlates well with the same motif on the florin. The similarity is not accidental – the author of coin dies probably relied on an older and more carefully elaborated seal.

*Stanisław Suchodolski*

On 3 March 2015 Narodowy Bank Polski is putting into circulation a coin of the series “History of Polish Coin” – Florin of Ladislav the Elbow-high, with the face value of 20 zł.

On 15 September 2015 Narodowy Bank Polski will be putting into circulation a silver coin of the series “History of Polish Coin” – Grosz of Casimir the Great, with the face value of 20 zł.



**Face value 20 zł**

Metal: Ag 925

Finish: **proof**

Diameter: 38.61 mm

Weight: 28.28 g

Mintage: up to 20,000 pcs

Coin designer:

Dominika Karpińska-Kopiec

Issuer: NBP

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

