

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.

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 45 96 and +48 22 185 13 03.

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

On 28 September 2017, Narodowy Bank Polski will be putting into circulation a silver coin of the series “Enduring Soldiers Accused By the Communists” – Witold Pilecki “Witold”, with a face value of 10 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

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100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Fatima



Collector coins

100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Fatima

It is 1917 and Europe has been engulfed by internecine war for three years. In Portugal, the Church suffers from persecution. In Saint Petersburg, the Bolshevik Revolution breaks out.

Fatima is a small town in central Portugal. Three children had visions of the Mother of God there between 13 May and 13 October 1917. They were the Marto siblings, Jacinta and Francisco, and Lucia dos Santos. In 1921, a local bishop gave permission to hold a mass for pilgrims, and in 1930 the Holy See approved the cult of Our Lady of Fatima. In 1967, Pope Paul VI confirmed the credibility of the apparitions in the *Signum magnum* exhortation. In 2000, Pope John Paul II beatified Francisco and Jacinta and revealed the so-called third Fatima secret. On 13 May 2017, on the centenary of the apparitions, Pope Francis canonised the siblings.

The „secret” associated with the apparitions has three parts. The first two secrets contain a vision of hell, an appeal for the worship of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and a prefigurement of the Second World War; they presage the enormous damage that Russia would inflict on humanity by abandoning faith and setting up communist totalitarianism. In the third part of the „secret”, written down on 3 January 1944, the pope walks alone in a half-ruined city, climbs a mountain top and eventually dies a martyr’s death at the foot of a cross. The mountain and the city – as



the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith explains – symbolise the place where human history unfolds. History is man’s arduous climb to the top. At the same time, it is a place of creation and destruction, a place of community and progress, but also a place of extreme dangers and threats. Nevertheless, man is not a passive object of history. The future is not predetermined – it is entrusted to human freedom. The cross on the mountain top is a waypoint and the destination of history. Through the cross, destruction has been transformed into salvation. The vision is therefore reassuring. During the apparitions, the Mother of God expresses her wish for people to take Communion on the first Saturday of the month in order to atone for their past sins.

On 15 September 2017, Narodowy Bank Polski is putting into circulation a silver coin “100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Fatima” with a face value of 10 złoty.

Face value 10 zł

Metal: Ag 925/1000

Finish: proof

Dimensions: 36.00 x 24.00 mm
(oval)

Weight: 10.00 g

Edge: plain

Mintage: up to 25,000 pcs

Designer: Urszula Walerzak

Issuer: NBP

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



John Paul II was convinced that the apparitions of Fatima were one of the most important omens communicated to people in the 20th century. The bullet that wounded him during the assassination attempt on 13 May 1981 was placed in the crown of Our Lady of Fatima; moreover, the pope himself attributed his miraculous survival to the intervention of Our Lady of Fatima.

*Rev. Prof. Piotr Mazurkiewicz, PhD
Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University
in Warsaw*

The obverse of the coin features images of the three children who had visions of the Mother of God: Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto and Lucia dos Santos.

The reverse of the coin features images of the crown on the statue of Our Lady of Fatima and a lily, symbolising chastity, innocence and virginity.