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 23 October 2017, Narodowy Bank Polski will be putting into circulation a collector coin "Five Centuries of the Reformation in Poland" with a face value of 20 zł.

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

Narodowy Bank Polski

We protect the value of money



## 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Death of Tadeusz Kościuszko



## 200th Anniversary of the Death of Tadeusz Kościuszko

Tadeusz Kościuszko died on 15 October 1817 in the Swiss town of Solothurn. He was a Polish and American General, an honorary citizen of the French Republic, an American national hero distinguished for his service in the United States' struggle for independence, a participant of the Polish-Russian war of 1792 in defence of the Constitution of May 3, and the leader of the Kościuszko Uprising of 1794 whose aim was to rescue and resurrect the dying Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. He was a genuine republican and a philanthropist. He saw slavery as a disgrace to mankind, and he believed that the serfdom of the peasants was the greatest evil of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. The news of Kościuszko's death instantly spread across the whole of Europe and North America. Funeral ceremonies were held in Switzerland, France, Germany and the United States. General La Fayette said in Paris that "Kościuszko belongs to the entire world, and his virtues belong to all mankind." In Paris, Kościuszko was commemorated with a medal from a series depicting famous statesmen.

The death of the leader was mourned most intensely in the territories of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, which were torn apart by the partitioning powers. Prayers for Kościuszko were held in Warsaw, Vilnius and Cracow, not only in Roman Catholic churches, but also in Protestant churches, synagogues and mosques of the Lithuanian Tatars. Cracow soon claimed the body of Poland's last defender in the name of the Polish people. and Kościuszko was buried in the tomb of Polish kings at Wawel Cathedral during a special ceremony. Later, the Polish people erected a huge symbolic grave, known as the Kościuszko Mound, overlooking the former capital. Kościuszko's death reinvigorated the patriotic sentiments of Poles. He became an inspiration for many generations in the tireless struggle to regain national independence. His name was a slogan used in the Polish battles for independence, in the positivist programmes of organic and grassroots work. Kościuszko's legacy is a priceless component of the spiritual heritage of Polish people.

After Poland regained independence, the heart of Tadeusz Kościuszko returned to Warsaw. The United States and Poland honoured him with a number of monuments. Across the world there are many sites devoted to his memory,









among others, Mount Kościuszko in Australia, Kościuszko Island in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Alaska, and towns in the United States bearing his name. The anniversaries associated with Kościuszko were celebrated in Poland and especially among the Polish diaspora across the world in the years 1894, 1917, 1946 and 1967. The General Conference of UNESCO granted its patronage over the commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the death of Tadeusz Kościuszko, while the Seim and the Senate of the Republic of Poland proclaimed 2017 as the year of Tadeusz Kościuszko.

On 12 October 2017, Narodowy Bank Polski is putting into circulation collector coins "200th Anniversary of the Death of Tadeusz Kościuszko", a gold coin with a face value of 200 złoty and a silver coin with a face value of 10 złoty.

Face value 200 zł

Metal: Au 900/1000 Finish: proof

Diameter: 27.00 mm

Weight: 15.50 g Edge: plain

Mintage: up to 1,500 pcs

Designer: Anna Watróbska-Wdowiarska

Issuer: NBP

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

Face value 10 zł

Metal: Ag 925/1000

Finish: proof (high relief) Diameter: 32.00 mm

Weight: 31.10 g Edge: plain

Mintage: up to 16,000 pcs

Designer: Robert Kotowicz

Issuer: NBP

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

The obverse of the gold coin presents stylized depictions of the War Order of Virtuti Militari and the Kościuszko Mound in Cracow. The reverse features a portrait of Tadeusz Kościuszko according to the steel engraving made by Antoni Oleszczyński in 1829 in Paris.

The obverse of the silver coin depicts the figures of the Polish scythemen against the background of a cannon and flags, which is a reference to the victory at Racławice. The reverse features a bust of Tadeusz Kościuszko from a medal struck in Paris in 1818 as part of a series depicting famous statesmen, which was prepared by Durand according to the design of August Caunois.

> Mieczysław Rokosz President of the Committee of the Kościuszko Mound

> > in Cracow

