

**NBP**

Narodowy Bank Polski

Collector coins



# Treasures of Stanisław August

Ladislav Vasa  
(1632–1648)

# Treasures of Stanisław August

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The unique series of gold and silver collector coins with the face values of 500 zloty and 50 zloty – “TREASURES OF STANISŁAW AUGUST” – replicates the famous 18th century medallic series with the images of the kings of Poland, which was struck on the order of Stanisław August Poniatowski.

The royal medals, designed by two outstanding medallists: Jan Filip Holzhaeusser and Jan Jakub Reichel, were struck at the Warsaw mint in the years 1791–1797/1798. The design of the medals was based on portraits painted between 1768 and 1771 by Marcello Bacciarelli for the Marble Room at the Royal Castle in Warsaw. The coins issued by Narodowy Bank Polski are faithful replicas of the medals, preserving the diameter and height of relief of the originals. This applies to the portraits of the kings on the reverses. The obverses of the coins feature the reverses of the medals with biographies of the monarchs. The reverses of the medals have been reduced in size because they are accompanied by the name of the state along the rim, the image of the state emblem, the face value and the year of issue of the coins. The biographies of the monarchs and the inscriptions on the obverses of the medals accompanying the royal portraits are in Latin. The final text editing was most likely done by King Stanisław August himself. The names of the monarchs in Polish are presented on the sides of the coins, along with the name of the series “Treasures of Stanisław August”.

The gallery of portraits of Polish kings, painted on the order of Stanisław August Poniatowski, consisted of images of 23 monarchs. It included one royal portrait more than Bacciarelli’s series of 22 paintings. The additional portrait of Stanisław Leszczyński – featured on the medal – was most probably modelled on a painting by Jan Bogumił Plesch. Both series, the paintings and the medals, begin with the image of Bolesław Chrobry and end with the portrait of August III. Since the 18th century, the principal place in the Marble Room has belonged to the portrait of the full-length figure of Stanisław August in his coronation robes. The painting is several times larger than other portraits. It is therefore probable that the medallic series would have finished with a medal presenting the image of the ruling monarch. However, these plans were thwarted by the king’s abdication, emigration and early death at the beginning of 1798.

The series of coins “Treasures of Stanisław August” consists of 24 portraits of monarchs – of which 23 have been modelled on the royal series plus a portrait of Stanisław August based on the medals from the period. The series will be struck in silver and gold, as was the practice in the 18th century.

Tomasz Bylicki  
senior curator  
Historical Museum of Warsaw



Son of Sigismund Vasa and Anne of Austria, during his father's lifetime he was elected Grand Duke of Moscow in the Lord's year 1610, after his father's death he inherited the title of the King of Sweden. Victorious, he freed Smolensk from the siege. He died childless, among lost hopes for many kingdoms, in Merez in the year of our Lord 1648, at the age of 53, in the 16<sup>th</sup> year of his reign, on May 20.



# Ladislav Vasa (1632–1648)

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The seventeenth coin of the series depicts Ladislav IV of the Vasa dynasty, the son of the king of Poland and Sweden, Sigismund Vasa, and Anne Habsburg of Austria. He was elected Polish king in November 1632 and crowned in Cracow in February 1633. Widely liked and respected, he was called the “ruler of four kingdoms” because as a prince he was elected tsar of Russia (1610–1613), in 1619 he was offered the Czech crown and because he remained the titular king of Sweden until his death.

The reverse of the coin features the bust of the king, transferred from a medal (according to a painting by Marcello Bacciarelli) with the profile facing left, with a curled mustache and a small beard, with a wide-winged hat adorned with an ostrich feather and a jewel, with hair falling over his shoulders, in a cuirass and a caftan, in a lacy turn-down collar, with a favour on the bow, or the “knot of love”, and with the Order of the Golden Fleece on a chain.

The obverse of the coin features a slightly shortened version of the text engraved on the reverse of the medal (in translation): *Son of Sigismund Vasa and Anne of Austria, during his father's lifetime he was elected Grand Duke of Moscow in the Lord's year 1610, after his father's death he inherited the title of the King of Sweden. Victorious, he freed Smolensk from the siege. He died childless, among lost hopes for many kingdoms, in Merez in the year of our Lord 1648, at the age of 53, in the 16<sup>th</sup> year of his reign, on May 20.*

Ladislav Vasa was born in 1595 in Łobzów. Carefully educated, as an efficient commander he waged many wars with Russia, Turkey and Sweden, usually obtaining favourable peace conditions. In domestic policy, with the country's good economic situation, he regulated religious issues, reorganised the army and created a Polish war fleet. He founded Władysławowo and Kazimierzowo fortresses. He obtained the Duchy of Opole and Racibórz as pledge (until 1666), and in the course of suppressing the Cossack uprisings in Ukraine, he led to so-called golden peace (1638–1648), broken after the king's death by the Chmielnicki uprising. Ladislav IV also went down in history as a patron of science and fine arts, a lover of theater and opera. He erected the King Sigismund's Column in honour of his father. Married twice (with Cecilia Renata of Austria and from 1646 – with Marie Louise Gonzaga), he did not have adult offspring. He died in Merez (now *Merkinė*), Lithuania in 1648 and was buried at Wawel, while his heart was laid in the Vilnius cathedral.

Marta Męclewska

## LADISLAS VASA Collector coins

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Face value: 500 zł

metal: Au 999.9/1000

finish: standard

diameter: 45 mm

weight: 62.2 g

On the edge, the inscription:

SKARBY STANISŁAWA AUGUSTA \*

WŁADYSŁAW IV \*

mintage: up to 600 pcs

Designer: reverse –

Anna Wątróbska-Wdowiarska

Obverse and inscriptions

on the reverse – Robert Kotowicz

Producer: Mennica Polska S.A.

commissioned by NBP

Date of issue: 3 December 2020



Face value: 50 zł

metal: Ag 999/1000

finish: standard

diameter: 45 mm

weight: 62.2 g

On the edge, the inscription:

SKARBY STANISŁAWA AUGUSTA \*

WŁADYSŁAW IV \*

mintage: up to 5,000 pcs

Designer: reverse –

Anna Wątróbska-Wdowiarska

Obverse and inscriptions

on the reverse – Robert Kotowicz

Producer: Mennica Polska S.A.

commissioned by NBP

Date of issue: 3 December 2020







Bolesław Chrobry  
Boleslaus the Brave (992–1025)  
Date of issue: 12 III 2013



Władysław Jagiełło  
Ladislas Jagiello (1386–1434)  
Date of issue: 3 III 2015



Wacław II Czeski  
Vaclav II (1291–1305)  
Date of issue: 22 V 2013



Władysław Warneńczyk  
Ladislas of Varna (1434–1444)  
Date of issue: 15 IX 2015



Władysław Łokietek  
Ladislas the Elbow-high (1320–1333)  
Date of issue: 13 IX 2013



Kazimierz Jagiellończyk  
Casimir Jagiellon (1447–1492)  
Date of issue: 3 XII 2015



Kazimierz Wielki  
Casimir the Great (1333–1370)  
Date of issue: 3 III 2014



Jan Olbracht  
John Albert (1492–1501)  
Date of issue: 14 VI 2016



Ludwik Węgierski  
Louis I of Hungary (1370–1382)  
Date of issue: 10 IX 2014



Aleksander Jagiellończyk  
Alexander (1501–1506)  
Date of issue: 7 XII 2016



Jadwiga Andegaweńska  
Jadwiga of Anjou (1384–1399)  
Date of issue: 4 XII 2014



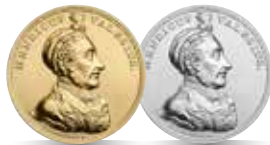
Zygmunt I Stary  
Sigismund the Elder (1506–1548)  
Date of issue: 12 VII 2017



Zygmunt August  
Sigismund-Augustus  
(1548–1572)  
Date of issue: 7 XII 2017



Michał Korybut Wiśniowiecki  
(1669–1673)



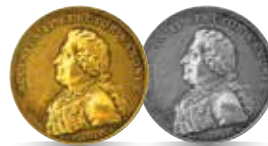
Henryk Walezy  
Henry Valois (1573–1575)  
Date of issue: 12 VII 2018



Jan III Sobieski  
John III Sobieski  
(1674–1696)



Stefan Batory  
Stephen Bathory (1576–1586)  
Date of issue: 17 I 2019



August II Mocny  
Augustus II the Strong  
(1697–1706, 1709–1733)



Zygmunt III Waza  
Sigismund Vasa (1587–1632)  
Date of issue: 23 I 2020



Stanisław Leszczyński  
(1705–1709, 1733–1736)



Władysław IV Waza  
Ladislav Vasa (1632–1648)  
Date of issue: 3 XII 2020



August III Sas  
Augustus III  
(1733–1763)

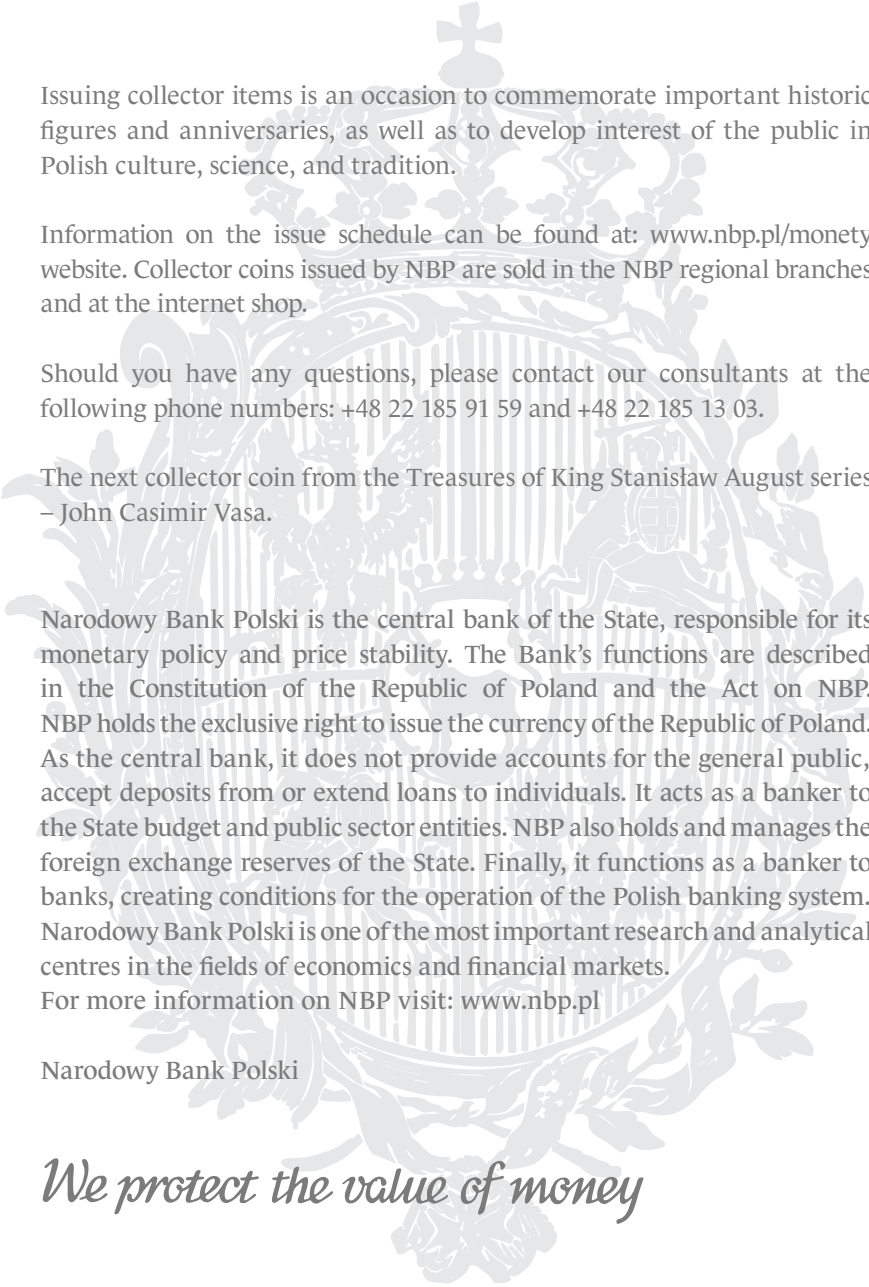


Jan Kazimierz Waza  
John Casimir Vasa  
(1648–1668)



Stanisław August Poniatowski  
(1764–1795)

Coin design to be presented



Issuing collector items is an occasion to commemorate important historic figures and anniversaries, as well as to develop interest of the public in Polish culture, science, and tradition.

Information on the issue schedule can be found at: [www.nbp.pl/money](http://www.nbp.pl/money) website. Collector coins issued by NBP are sold in the NBP regional branches and at the internet shop.

Should you have any questions, please contact our consultants at the following phone numbers: +48 22 185 91 59 and +48 22 185 13 03.

The next collector coin from the Treasures of King Stanisław August series – John Casimir Vasa.

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*