

NBP

National Bank of Poland
holds the exclusive right to issue currency of the Republic of Poland.

In addition to **coins and notes for general circulation**, the NBP issues **collector coins and notes**. 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.

Since 1996, the NBP has also been issuing **occasional 2 złoty** coins, struck in **Nordic Gold**, for general circulation.

All coins and notes issued by the NBP are legal tender in Poland.

Information on the issue schedule and par value sale of the 2 zł NG coins can be found at the www.nbp.pl/money website.

Collector coins issued by the NBP are sold exclusively at the Internet auctions held in the Kolekcjoner service at the following website:

www.kolekcjoner.nbp.pl

 KOLEKCJONER

and at the Regional Branches of the NBP.

On **15 September 2011** the National Bank of Poland is putting into circulation a coin of the “Cities and towns in Poland” series commemorating Poznań, with the face value of 2 złotych and struck in standard finish in Nordic Gold.



face value 2 zł • metal **CuAl5Zn5Sn1 alloy** • finish **standard**
diameter **27.0 mm** • weight **8.15 g** • mintage (volume) **800,000 pcs**

Obverse: An image of the Eagle established as the Emblem of the Republic of Poland. On the sides of the Eagle, the notation of the year of issue: 20-11, under the Eagle, an inscription: ZŁ 2 ZŁ. Along the rim, an inscription: RZECZPOSPOLITA POLSKA (Republic of Poland), preceded and followed by six pearls. Below the Eagle, on the right, the Mint's mark: M/W.

Reverse: In the centre, a stylised image of a fragment of the church and the friary of the Order of Friars Minor (*Ordo Fratrum Minorum*) in Poznań. At the top, a semicircular inscription: KLASZTOR FRANCISZKANÓW (Franciscan Friary). At the bottom, a semicircular inscription: POZNAŃ.

On the edge: The inscription: NBP, repeated eight times, every second one inverted by 180 degrees, separated with stars.

Obverse designer: **Ewa Tyc-Karpińska**

Reverse designer: **Andrzej Nowakowski**

The coins were struck at the Mint of Poland in Warsaw.

Cities and towns in Poland

In 2009 the NBP launched a series of coins “Cities and towns in Poland”. The coin commemorating Poznań is the twelfth one in the series.



POZNAŃ
15 September 2011



The Franciscans arrived in Poznań around 1640. On 22 August 1643 king Władysław IV Waza (Ladislaus IV Vasa) issued a special document, whereby they could settle on a hillside near the ducal castle and build a church and a friary. The following year the Bishop of Poznań approved the foundation of the Franciscan convent. First, however, the friars moved into the so-called Grobla (causeway), situated outside the city walls. After the wooden church and the friary had burnt down during the Swedish invasion, the construction of a bricked temple and a priory commenced on the castle hill, in pursuance with the royal decree. 24 May 1668 saw the consecration of the foundation stone for the temple which has survived to this day. The new church – dedicated to Anthony of Padua, was built according to the Baroque style.

From the very beginning, the Franciscans were vested with a special mission to spread the glory of Virgin Mary in Poznań. There, at the time of the Swedish “Deluge”, brother Tomasz Dybowski commenced his activities. He was a charity collector raising funds in Poznań during the period of great poverty. In 1666, upon approval by his superiors, he purchased a small picture of Virgin Mary. He would then perambulate, wearing the picture on his chest, bringing all people relief from suffering, joy and hope to win the protection of Virgin Mary. After a few years, the news about the “miracles” that apparently occurred to the believers and were attributed to the picture reached the ecclesiastic authorities. Numerous

committees were appointed to examine those “wonderful” events and healings. On 19 April 1669 the Bishop of Poznań issued a decree, which ascribed supernatural powers to the picture and allowed people to worship it in the Franciscan church on the royal hill in Poznań. In 1670 the ceremony was held of depositing the painting of Miraculous Virgin Mary – Our Lady of Poznań in the new church. From that time, the Franciscan church has been the most important sanctuary of the city, and Virgin Mary in the picture has been known under the name of Our Lady of Poznań.

On 29 June 1968 the painting received the papal crowns awarded by Primate Stefan Wyszyński, Cardinal Karol Wojtyła and Archbishop Antoni Baraniak.

The church building has been renovated recently. It is now one of the most important churches of Poznań as a place of worship of Miraculous Virgin Mary. Thanks to its architecture and interior – designed principally by Adam Swach – and unique acoustics of the main nave, the church hosts numerous concerts. The Franciscans organize numerous religious and cultural events. One of the most important among them is the church fair of Miraculous Virgin Mary – Our Lady of Poznań on 12 September.