

NBP

Narodowy Bank Polski

Collector coins



Treasures of Stanisław August

Louis I of Hungary
(1370–1382)

Treasures of Stanisław August

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



From a French house, son of Charles of Anjou, King of Hungary, and King of Hungary himself, nephew of Casimir the Great from his sister Elizabeth's side, he gave many privileges to the nobility. He died in Trnava A.D. 1382, aged 56, having reigned Poland for 12 years, on 12 September.



Louis I of Hungary (1370–1382)

The fifth coin of the series commemorates Louis I from the French Angevin dynasty (d'Anjou), son of Charles Robert and Elizabeth of Poland. Louis was King of Hungary from 1342, and in 1370 – under previously made arrangements regarding the succession of the Angevins to the Polish throne in the event there were no male descendants of Casimir the Great – he became King of Poland.

The medallic image of Louis, bearing resemblance to the portrait by Marcello Bacciarelli, shows the right profile of the king, with a beard, wearing a robe with rosettes and a buckled coat. He has an ornamental crown on his head, different than the one in the portrait.

The medal's reverse reads in translation (on the coin's obverse in an abbreviated version):

From a French house, son of Charles of Anjou, King of Hungary, and King of Hungary himself nephew of Casimir the Great from his sister Elizabeth's side, he gave many privileges to the nobility. He died in Trnava A.D. 1382, aged 56, having reigned Poland for 12 years, on 12 September.

Louis, born in 1326 in Visegrád, became King of Poland after 28 years of successful reign in Hungary (where he was nicknamed the Great). In Poland, after his coronation in Cracow on 17 November 1370, it was his mother, Elizabeth of Poland, and later bishop Zawisza Kurozwęcki, who reigned in his stead during Louis' frequent absences; a prominent role was also played by Duke Vladislaus II of Opole. In order to obtain permission for his daughters to succeed to the throne, Louis granted the Polish szlachta (gentry) the Privilege of Koszyce in 1374, which included tax exemptions and other liberties. This way he weakened the royal authority but laid a cornerstone for the later nobles' democracy. He waived claims on Silesia in favour of Bohemia and gave Red Ruthenia to the Hungarian crown. He fought victorious battles for Hungary in the Balkans and towards the end of his life conquered Dalmatia and Dubrovnik. He died in Nagyszombat (in Latin Tyrnavia, currently Trnava in Slovakia) in 1382.

Marta Męciewska
Former Curator of the Numismatic Cabinet
of the Royal Castle in Warsaw

Louis I of Hungary Collector coins

Face Value: 500 zł
metal: Au 999.9/1000
finish: standard
diameter: 45 mm
weight: 62.2 g
mintage: up to 750 pcs

designer: reverse –
Anna Wątróbska-Wdowiarska
obverse and inscriptions
on the reverse – Urszula Walerzak
producer: Mennica Polska S.A.
commissioned by NBP
Date of issue: 10 September 2014



Face Value: 50 zł
metal: Ag 999/1000
finish: standard
diameter: 45 mm
weight: 62.2 g
mintage: up to 5000 pcs

designer: reverse –
Anna Wątróbska-Wdowiarska
obverse and inscriptions
on the reverse – Urszula Walerzak
producer: Mennica Polska S.A.
commissioned by NBP
Date of issue: 10 September 2014





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



Władysław Jagiełło
Ladislas Jagiello
(1386-1434)



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



Władysław Warneńczyk
Ladislas of Varna
(1434-1444)



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



Kazimierz Jagiellończyk
Casimir Jagiellon
(1447-1492)



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



Jan Olbracht
John Albert
(1492-1501)



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



Aleksander Jagiellończyk
Alexander
(1501-1506)



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



Zygmunt I Stary
Sigismund the Elder
(1506-1548)



Zygmunt August
Sigismund-Augustus
(1548-1572)



Michał Korybut Wiśniowiecki
(1669-1673)



Henryk Walezy
Henry Valois
(1573-1575)



Jan III Sobieski
John III Sobieski
(1674-1696)



Stefan Batory
Stephen Bathory
(1576-1586)



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



Zygmunt III Waza
Sigismund Vasa
(1587-1632)



Stanisław Leszczyński
(1705-1709, 1733-1736)



Władysław IV Waza
Ladislav Vasa
(1632-1648)



August III Sas
Augustus III
(1733-1763)

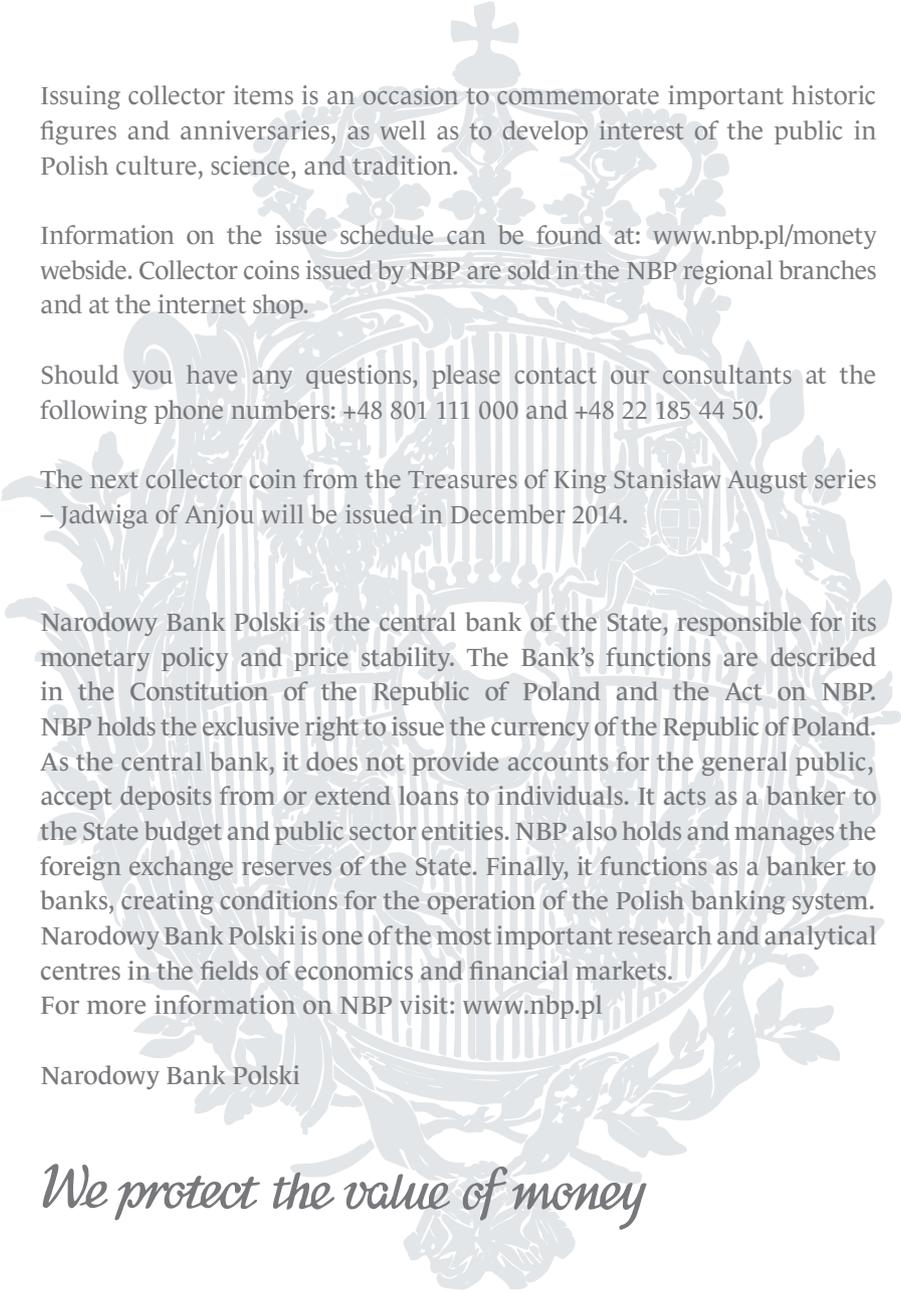


Jan Kazimierz Waza
John Casimir Vasa
(1648-1668)



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/monety 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: +48 801 111 000 and +48 22 185 44 50.

The next collector coin from the Treasures of King Stanisław August series – Jadwiga of Anjou will be issued in December 2014.

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