

NBP

Narodowy Bank Polski

Collector coins



Treasures of Stanisław August

Casimir Jagiellon
(1447–1492)

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



Jagiello's second son, having, at the inhabitants' request, liberated Prussia from the Teutonic yoke, returned it to the Crown and made it a province. He died in Grodno A.D.1492, at the age of 66, in the 45th year of his reign, on 7 June.



Casimir Jagiellon (1447–1492)

The ninth coin in the series depicts Casimir Jagiellon, the younger brother of Ladislas of Varna. His long reign was a very fruitful one as it saw the incorporation of Prussian territories, the Duchy of Oświęcim and a part of Mazovia into the Kingdom of Poland.

Of the 13 children born of his marriage to Elisabeth of Austria (known as the mother of kings), four of his sons were crowned, one was granted the nimbus of a saint and five daughters married into renowned European ducal families. The Jagiellonian dynasty became a significant political power in 15th-century Europe.

In the medallion bust of the king (modelled on a portrait painted by Marcello Bacciarelli) the facial features bear resemblance to the tombstone sculpted by Wit Stwosz (Weit Stoss) in Wawel Cathedral. The medal features the king's head covered with a fur cap decorated with a hat brush, and by the cloak fastened with a buckle there is a shield bearing the coat-of-arms of Royal Prussia.

The inscription on the reverse of the medal reads (in translation): *Jagiello's second son, having, at the inhabitants' request, liberated Prussia from the Teutonic yoke, returned it to the Crown and made it a province. He died in Grodno A.D.1492, at the age of 66, in the 45th year of his reign, on 7 June.*

Casimir, born in 1427, the son of Ladislas Jagiello and Zofia Holszańska, was proclaimed Grand Duke of Lithuania in 1440, but the personal Polish-Lithuanian union was formally renewed only after his coronation in 1447. The development of the Vistula-borne trade, the political emancipation of towns in the Teutonic state and the establishment of the Prussian Union all led to the issuing of the act of incorporation of Prussia into Poland in 1454. Following the Thirteen Years War with the Order of the Teutonic Knights that ended with Poland's victory in 1466, Poland gained Gdańsk Pomerania (Pomerelia) and part of Prussian territories. The Order became a vassal to the Polish Crown. For his son, Ladislas, the king obtained the crowns of Hungary and Bohemia. Polish nobles were awarded new privileges. Science and culture flourished; Jan Długosz wrote his monumental history of Poland and Wit Stwosz (Weit Stoss) created his altarpiece in St. Mary's Basilica in Kraków.

Marta Męciewska

Casimir Jagiellon Collector coins

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 *

KAZIMIERZ JAGIELLOŃCZYK *

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 2015



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 *

KAZIMIERZ JAGIELLOŃCZYK *

mintage: up to 5,250 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 2015





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



Władysław Jagiełło
Ladislav Jagiello (1386-1434)
Date of issue: 3 III 2015



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



Władysław Warneńczyk
Ladislav of Varna (1434-1444)
Date of issue: 15 IX 2015



Władysław Łokietek
Ladislav 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)



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)

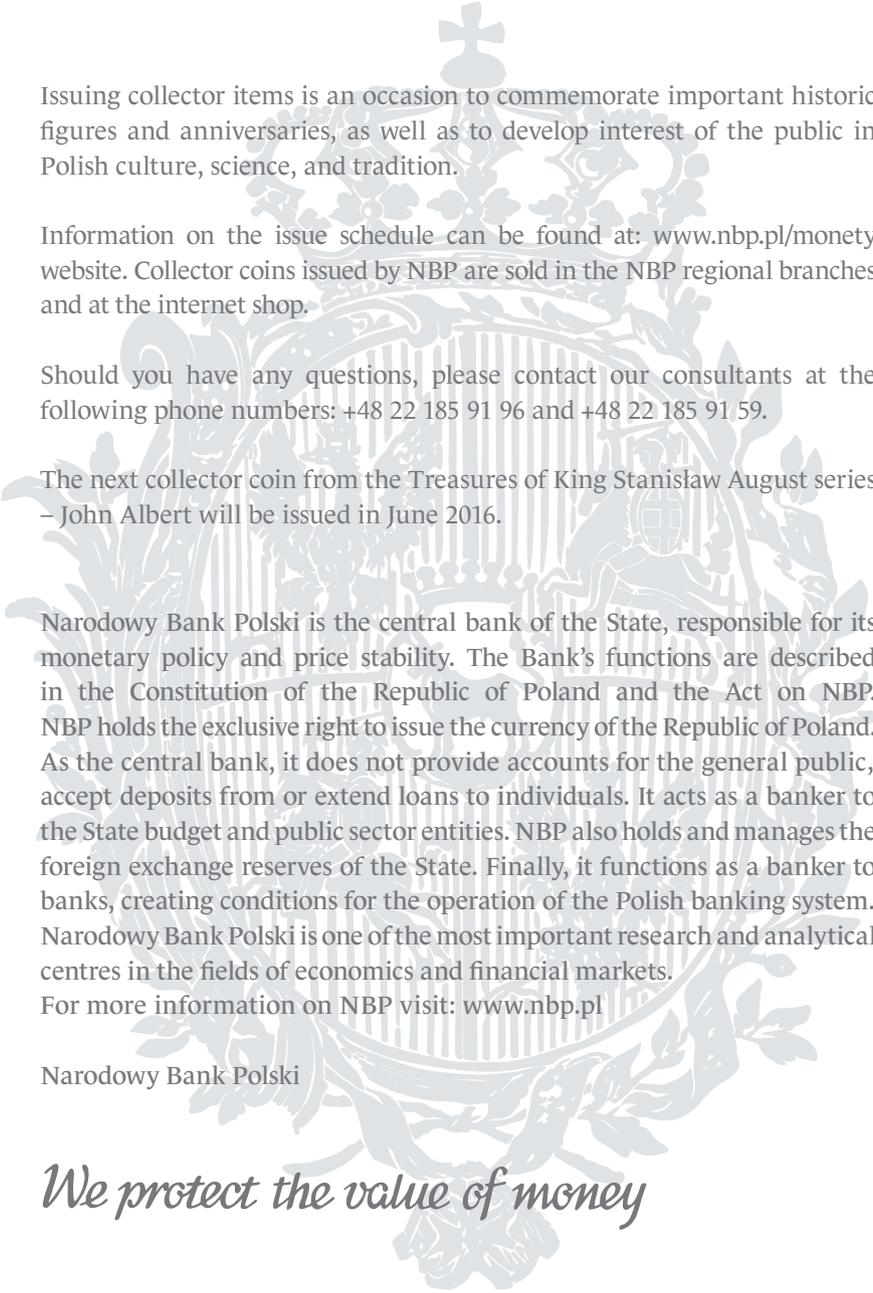


Jan Kazimierz Waza
John Casimir Vasa
(1648-1668)



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/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 96 and +48 22 185 91 59.

The next collector coin from the Treasures of King Stanisław August series – John Albert will be issued in June 2016.

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