



BANK ĊENTRALI TA' MALTA  
EUROSISTEMA  
CENTRAL BANK OF MALTA

# Silver Coins 1990-1999



MALTA  
COIN  
CENTRE



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## Visit of HH Pope John Paul II to Malta



1990

| Type         | Silver BU                        | Silver Proof                     |
|--------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Denomination | Lm5                              | Lm5                              |
| Diameter     | 38.61mm                          | 38.61mm                          |
| Gross Weight | 28.28g                           | 28.28g                           |
| Finesse      | 0.925                            | 0.925                            |
| Designer     | Ġanni Bonnici / Noel Galea Bason | Ġanni Bonnici / Noel Galea Bason |
| Mint         | Royal Mint, UK                   | Royal Mint, UK                   |
| Mintage      | 5,000                            | 4,000                            |

The pastoral visit in May 1990, of Pope John Paul II – who has been described as the pilgrim Pope – had long been awaited by the Maltese people who have always held him in high esteem. They had eagerly looked forward to seeing in person and meeting the great religious leader to renew their affection, at the same time expecting his customary message of guidance and courage. The obverse contains the Coat of Arms of Malta, whereas the reverse shows the personal Crucifix of Pope John Paul held by his hands in a typical action while blessing the people. The background is the outline of the old walled city of Mdina, a medieval gem situated in the centre of the island, where the Episcopal seat of Malta's Archbishop also lies.

## 20th Anniversary of the EEC-Malta Association Agreement



1990

| Type         | Silver BU                        | Silver Proof                     |
|--------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Denomination | Lm5                              | Lm5                              |
| Diameter     | 38.61mm                          | 38.61mm                          |
| Gross Weight | 28.28g                           | 28.28g                           |
| Finesse      | 0.925                            | 0.925                            |
| Designer     | Ġanni Bonnici / Noel Galea Bason | Ġanni Bonnici / Noel Galea Bason |
| Mint         | Royal Mint, UK                   | Royal Mint, UK                   |
| Mintage      | 5,000                            | 4,000                            |

The Association Agreement, signed on 5 December 1970, was the first formal link with the European Community since Malta became independent in 1964. The main objective of the Agreement was to consolidate and extend the economic and commercial relationship that existed between the European Community and Malta. The ties between the Community and Malta continued to grow over the years. To coincide with the 20th Anniversary of the signing of the original Association Agreement in 1970, and to commemorate the event, the Central Bank of Malta in 1990, issued a Silver Coin in proof version.

## Save the Children Fund



1991

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Type         | Silver BU        |
| Denomination | Lm5              |
| Diameter     | 38.61mm          |
| Gross Weight | 28.28g           |
| Finesse      | 0.925            |
| Designer     | Noel Galea Bason |
| Mint         | Royal Mint, UK   |
| Mintage      | 20,000           |

In 1991, the Central Bank of Malta participated in an international coin programme intended primarily to provide funds for the benefit of a section of the international community. The obverse of the coin shows the Coat of Arms of Malta, whereas the reverse shows three children engaged in a common and simple game called 'cat', in which the 'cat' chases the 'mice' and catches them by a touch of the hand.

## 50th Anniversary of the award of the George Cross to Malta



1992

|              |                  |                  |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|
| Type         | Silver Proof     | Silver BU        |
| Denomination | Lm5              | Lm5              |
| Diameter     | 38.61mm          | 38.61mm          |
| Gross Weight | 28.28g           | 28.28g           |
| Finesse      | 0.925            | 0.925            |
| Designer     | Noel Galea Bason | Noel Galea Bason |
| Mint         | Royal Mint, UK   | Malta Mint       |
| Mintage      | 10,000           | 5,000            |

To mark the 50th Anniversary of the award of the George Cross to Malta, the Central Bank of Malta issued a limited legal tender coin in silver available in Proof and Brilliant Uncirculated (BU) version. The theme is a reproduction of part of the royal citation highlighting the indomitable spirit of the Maltese people during the Second World War.

## 25th Anniversary of the Central Bank of Malta



1993

| Type         | Silver Proof     | Silver BU        |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|
| Denomination | Lm5              | Lm5              |
| Diameter     | 38.61mm          | 38.61mm          |
| Gross Weight | 28.28g           | 28.28g           |
| Finesse      | 0.925            | 0.925            |
| Designer     | Noel Galea Bason | Noel Galea Bason |
| Mint         | Royal Mint, UK   | Royal Mint, UK   |
| Mintage      | 1,500            | 1,500            |

The Central Bank of Malta issued a silver coin to mark the 25th Anniversary of its establishment by law on 17 April 1968. The coin, which has a face value of Lm5, is available in Proof version only. The reverse shows Dott. Giovanni Felice, the Minister for Finance at the time of the Bank's inception, and the obverse shows the Bank's new building in St James's Counterguard together with the Bank's emblem.

## 400th Anniversary of the University of Malta



1993

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Type         | Silver Proof     |
| Denomination | Lm5              |
| Diameter     | 38.61mm          |
| Gross Weight | 28.28g           |
| Finesse      | 0.925            |
| Designer     | Noel Galea Bason |
| Mint         | Royal Mint, UK   |
| Mintage      | 1,000            |

On 12 November 1592, the Collegium Melitense was set up and run by the Jesuits. In August 1561, Pope Pius IV issued a Bull by means of which he empowered the Jesuits to confer degrees in Philosophy and Theology, but they also taught grammar and the humanities. In 1768, Grand Master Manuel Pinto expelled the Jesuits from Malta and confiscated all their properties. The revenue generated from these properties was utilised to set up and maintain the Pubblica Università di Studi Generali. The University stopped teaching during the brief French interlude (1798-1800), but it resumed functioning in October 1800. During the 19th century, the University underwent a series of changes in its statutes and regulations to come in line with universities in the United Kingdom. In 1937, the University obtained the right to use the word "Royal" in its title. This was dropped in 1974, when Malta became a Republic.

## 430 years in defence of Christian Europe



1993

|              |                            |                            |
|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Type         | Cupronickel BU             | Silver Proof               |
| Denomination | Lm1                        | Lm5                        |
| Diameter     | 38.6mm                     | 38.6mm                     |
| Gross Weight | 25g                        | 25g                        |
| Finesse      | n/a                        | 0.925                      |
| Designer     | Coin Invest, Liechtenstein | Coin Invest, Liechtenstein |
| Mint         | Valcambi, Switzerland      | Valcambi, Switzerland      |
| Mintage      | 25,000                     | 35,000                     |

Malta was given to the Order of St John by Emperor Charles V in 1530. The Order had been involved in fighting the Ottoman Empire since the 13th century. In 1565, the Ottomans attempted to invade Malta but the island, defended by the knights and its inhabitants, endured a three-month siege.

In 1571, the galleys of the Order of St John joined a Christian fleet and took part in the Battle of Lepanto, making a significant contribution to the victory obtained by Don Juan of Austria against the Ottoman fleet. The Great Siege of Malta of 1565, the Battle of Lepanto of 1571, and the decisive Battle of Vienna of 1683, marked the effective decline of the Ottoman threat to Europe.



## World Cup



1994

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Type         | Silver Proof     |
| Denomination | Lm5              |
| Diameter     | 38.61mm          |
| Gross Weight | 31.47            |
| Finesse      | 0.925            |
| Designer     | MDM Braunschweig |
| Mint         | Royal Mint, UK   |
| Mintage      | 20,000           |

The first World Cup tournament organised by FIFA was held in Uruguay in 1930. The tournament was to be held every four years but was not played in 1942 and 1946, because of the Second World War.

In 1994, the World Cup was held in the USA. This round was won by Brazil, which became the first nation to win four World Cup titles.

## Schooner 'Valletta' ship and explorer



1994

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Type         | Silver Proof     |
| Denomination | Lm5              |
| Diameter     | 38.61mm          |
| Gross Weight | 31.47g           |
| Finesse      | 0.925            |
| Designer     | MDM Braunschweig |
| Mint         | Royal Mint, UK   |
| Mintage      | 20,000           |

*Valletta* was a schooner built in 1829. She was used on the Mediterranean trade routes. The ship did not appear on Lloyd's List after 1842.

## 50th Anniversary of the United Nations



1995

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Type         | Silver Proof     |
| Denomination | Lm5              |
| Diameter     | 38.61mm          |
| Gross Weight | 28.28g           |
| Finesse      | 0.925            |
| Designer     | Noel Galea Bason |
| Mint         | Malta Mint       |
| Mintage      | 125,000          |

The League of Nations, the forerunner of the United Nations, was established in 1919 after the First World War. It was created under the Treaty of Versailles to promote peace through international cooperation. But this organisation proved to be a failure and ceased functioning with the outbreak of the Second World War. In 1945, the representatives of 50 countries met in San Francisco to draw up the United Nations Charter. The basis of this charter had been proposed by representatives of China, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States, who met at Dumbarton Oaks, USA, between August and October, 1944. The Charter was finalised and signed on 26 June 1945, and the United Nations officially came into being on 24 October 1945. Malta joined the United Nations on gaining Independence in 1964.

## Olympic Games



1996

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Type         | Silver Proof     |
| Denomination | Lm5              |
| Diameter     | 38.61mm          |
| Gross Weight | 31.47g           |
| Finesse      | 0.925            |
| Designer     | MDM Braunschweig |
| Mint         | Royal Mint, UK   |
| Mintage      | 35,000           |

In ancient Greece, religious and athletic festivals were held every four years at the temple of Zeus in Olympia, during which athletes from various Greek city states and kingdoms competed against each other. This was the origin of the modern Olympic Games.

In 1890, a French nobleman – Baron Pierre de Coubertin – set up the International Olympic Committee to re-establish the Olympic Games. He presented his ideas during the first meeting of the Olympic Committee, which was held in Paris in 1894. It was decided that the first Olympic Games would take place in Athens in 1896. The first games brought together 14 nations whose athletes competed in 43 events.

In 1914, the Olympic flag was adopted, consisting of five intertwined rings, representing the five continents, on a white background. The flag was hosted for the first time in the 1920 Olympics held in Belgium and has been used ever since.

The 1996 Olympics were officially known as the Games of the XXVI Olympiad. This was the centennial edition and took place in Atlanta, USA. These Olympics brought together more than 10,000 athletes from 197 nations. Maltese athletes participating in this edition competed in athletics, boardsailing, swimming, judo and shooting.

## UNICEF For the Children of the World



1997

|              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| Type         | Silver Proof          |
| Denomination | Lm5                   |
| Diameter     | 38.61 mm              |
| Gross Weight | 28.28g                |
| Finesse      | 0.925                 |
| Designer     | Noel Galea Bason      |
| Mint         | Valcambi, Switzerland |
| Mintage      | 25,000                |

The Central Bank of Malta issued a Silver Commemorative Coin, under the UNICEF "For the Children of the World" International Coin Programme commemorating UNICEF's 50th Anniversary and its ongoing service to children. The aim of the issue was to collect funds for the promotion of children's welfare all over the world. As was done in the past, the Central Bank of Malta paid a royalty to UNICEF for each coin sold. In order to support further UNICEF's noble cause, the Bank decided that, in addition, it would also be donating all profits from the sale of this coin in Malta to local entities committed to the welfare of Children, while the Bank's profits on overseas sales would be given to UNICEF. The obverse side of the coin shows the Coat of Arms of the Republic of Malta and the year of issue 1997, whereas the reverse shows a child cuddling a dog, with a computer on the side, together with the UNICEF Logo.

## 30th Anniversary of the Central Bank of Malta



1998

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Type         | Silver Proof     |
| Denomination | Lm5              |
| Diameter     | 38.61mm          |
| Gross Weight | 28.28g           |
| Finesse      | 0.925            |
| Designer     | Noel Galea Bason |
| Mint         | Royal Mint, UK   |
| Mintage      | 1,500            |

In April 1998, the Central Bank of Malta issued a Silver Commemorative Coin to mark the 30th Anniversary of its establishment by law on 17 April 1968. The obverse side of the coin shows the Coat of Arms of the Republic of Malta and the year of issue 1998. The reverse of the coin shows a pyramid structure which symbolically represents the financial solidity and strength of the Maltese banking system, the inscription "30 Anniversarju Bank Centrali ta' Malta 1968-1998" and the Bank's Coat of Arms. This design is based on an existing emblematic fountain designed by the renowned Maltese architect Prof. Richard England and is found in the Central Bank's premises at the St James's Counter-guard in Valletta, Malta.

## 200th Anniversary of the Revolt against the French



1998

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Type         | Silver Proof     |
| Denomination | Lm5              |
| Diameter     | 38.61mm          |
| Gross Weight | 28.28g           |
| Finesse      | 0.925            |
| Designer     | Noel Galea Bason |
| Mint         | Royal Mint, UK   |
| Mintage      | 5,000            |

A silver commemorative coin was issued to mark the bicentenary of the uprising of the Maltese against the French. The obverse side of the coin shows the Coat of Arms of the Republic of Malta and the year of issue 1998. The reverse of the coin shows the reverse design of a gold medal presented by Sir Alexander Ball on 9 February 1801, to the Maltese leaders of the uprising against the French in 1798, bearing the legend "*Patria Liberata*" which means "*The Fatherland Freed*".

## 300th Anniversary of the death of painter Mattia Preti



1999

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Type         | Silver Proof     |
| Denomination | Lm5              |
| Diameter     | 38.61mm          |
| Gross Weight | 28.28g           |
| Finesse      | 0.925            |
| Designer     | Noel Galea Bason |
| Mint         | Royal Mint, UK   |
| Mintage      | 5,000            |

The Central Bank of Malta issued this silver commemorative coin to mark the 300th anniversary of the death of Mattia Preti. The coin was issued to honour and offer tribute to Preti, the celebrated Calabrese painter, whose works – mostly of a religious character – adorn several churches in various towns and villages on these Islands. The coin, on the reverse, shows a self-portrait of Preti and a drawing of St John the Baptist – a detail from one of his works. The years of his lifetime (1613 - 1699) are shown to his left. The obverse of the coin shows the Coat of Arms of the Republic of Malta and the year of issue, 1999.