



BANK ĊENTRALI TA' MALTA  
EUROSISTEMA  
CENTRAL BANK OF MALTA

# Silver Coins 2020-2029



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## L'Isle Adam Graduals



2020

Type	Silver Proof
Denomination	€10
Diameter	38.61mm
Gross Weight	28.28g
Finesse	0.925
Designer	Royal Dutch Mint
Mint	Royal Dutch Mint
Mintage	2,500

The Central Bank of Malta has issued numismatic coins in gold and silver depicting an illuminated letter from the L'Isle Adam Graduals. The coins form part of the Europa Programme with the theme 'Gothic' and bear the Europa Star logo.

The obverse of the coin features the Coat of Arms of Malta and the Europa Star logo. The reverse of the coins depicts an illuminated letter O found in the L'Isle Adam Graduals, which are housed in the museum of St John's Co-Cathedral. Colour printing techniques were used on the coins to reproduce the chromatic and aesthetic qualities of the original artwork.

The L'Isle Adam Graduals, which date to around 1533, are considered to be Malta's finest illuminated manuscripts. They consist of a set of ten choir books commissioned from a French scriptorium by Grand Master Philippe Villiers de L'Isle Adam. These graduals were produced quite some time after the advent of printing, epitomised by the Gutenberg Bible of 1455. This reflects the complexity of printing music scores, which ensured that the production of manuscript choir books – largely using medieval techniques – survived into the 16th century.

## 75th Anniversary of World War II



Type	Silver Proof
Denomination	€10
Diameter	38.61mm
Gross Weight	28.28g
Finesse	0.925
Designer	Noel Galea Bason
Mint	Royal Dutch Mint
Mintage	2,000

World War II broke out on 1 September 1939, following the invasion of Poland by Nazi Germany. Malta, which formed part of the British Empire, remained relatively unaffected until Italy declared war on Britain on 10 June 1940. Malta suffered the first air-raid the following day. This was the start of a three-year ordeal during which Malta endured more than 3,000 air-raid alerts in the course of which some 16,000 tons of bombs were dropped on the islands. Malta was incessantly bombed, isolated and almost starved into submission. Nevertheless, the people and defenders of Malta prevailed in the face of adversity, death, loss and privation.

The coins, which have a face value of €10, are limited to 2,000 pieces and were minted by the Royal Dutch Mint. Each coin is struck in 0.925 silver, has a weight of 28.28g, a diameter of 38.61mm and is finished to proof quality.

The obverse of the coins features the Coat of Arms of Malta, while the reverse depicts three Gloster Gladiator bi-planes in flight over the Maltese islands. The artist – Noel Galea Bason – chose these legendary aircrafts, dubbed Faith, Hope and Charity, as they epitomise Malta's unequal fight against the might of the Axis forces, and remain one of the enduring symbols of Malta's wartime experience.

## 250th Anniversary of Beethoven's Birth



2020

Type	Silver Proof
Denomination	€10
Diameter	38.61mm
Gross Weight	28.28g
Finesse	0.925
Designer	Noel Galea Bason
Mint	Royal Dutch Mint
Mintage	1,500

Beethoven was born in Bonn, probably on 16 December 1770. He is considered to be one of the greatest composers of all time. His music marks the culmination of the 18th century classical style and the start of a new phase – Romanticism. His life and music influenced many 19th century composers like Schubert, Mendelssohn, Liszt, Berlioz, Bruckner, Brahms and Wagner. Beethoven's musical legacy comprises some 240 works, including nine symphonies, an opera, and various piano concertos and string quartets.

The coin, struck at the Royal Dutch Mint, shows the emblem of Malta and the year of issue – 2020 – on the obverse. On the reverse, the coin carries a representation of Beethoven based on the iconic portrait created in 1820 by Joseph Karl Stieler.

The coin has a face value of €10. It is struck in proof quality in 0.925 silver, has a weight of 28.28 grams and a diameter of 38.61 mm. It was designed and engraved by Noel Galea Bason, and the mintage is limited to 1,500 pieces.

## 50th Anniversary of the Armed Forces of Malta



2020

Type	Silver
Denomination	€10
Diameter	38.61mm
Finesse	0.925
Designer	CBM & AFM
Mint	Royal Dutch Mint
Mintage	2,000

The Malta Armed Forces Act, which came into force on 22 September 1970, made provision “for the raising and maintenance of armed forces in Malta and to provide for matters connected therewith or ancillary thereto”. With this instrument, Malta could set up its own standing armed forces.

On 1 October 1970, 500 Maltese officers and men of the Royal Malta Artillery, an old and distinguished regiment, ceased forming part of the British Army and became part of the Malta Land Force, which some time later was designated as the Armed Forces of Malta.

On the reverse, the coins feature the regimental badge of the Armed Forces of Malta on a red-on-blue coloured background. On the obverse is the Coat of Arms of the Republic of Malta together with the year of issue.

## 550th Anniversary of Albrecht Dürer's Birth



2021

Type	Silver Proof
Denomination	€10
Diameter	38.61mm
Gross Weight	28.28g
Finesse	0.925
Designer	Noel Galea Bason
Mint	Royal Dutch Mint
Mintage	1,000

The Central Bank of Malta is issuing numismatic coins in gold and silver commemorating 550 years since the birth of artist Albrecht Dürer.

The coins were designed and engraved by Noel Galea Bason and were minted at the Royal Dutch Mint. The obverse of the coins features the coat of arms of Malta. The reverse shows a representation of one of Dürer's woodcut engravings entitled 'St George and the Dragon'.

Albrecht Dürer was born in the city of Nuremberg on 21 May 1471. Although his work was steeped in the German late-Gothic style, his travels to Italy brought him in contact with the Italian Renaissance, which influenced him profoundly. He was an accomplished artist but is best remembered for the prodigious amount of engravings he made: some 346 woodcuts and 108 copper engravings. Dürer elevated engraving to a high art form. His prints are appreciated for their aesthetic qualities, intricate and minute details, and the deft techniques employed to create shading and spatial depth.

## 25th Anniversary of Junior College



Type	Silver Proof
Denomination	€10
Diameter	38.61mm
Gross Weight	28.28g
Finesse	0.925
Designer	Royal Dutch Mint
Mint	Royal Dutch Mint
Mintage	700

On 19 July 2021, the Central Bank of Malta issued a silver coin to mark 25 years since the Junior College opened its doors in 1995.

The coin, struck at the Royal Dutch Mint, shows the emblem of Malta and the year of issue, 2021, on the obverse. On the reverse, the coin carries a representation of the Junior College premises in Msida. This modernist building, which was popularly known as the Polytechnic, was designed by Victor Anastasi. It was funded through Britain's Colonial Welfare and Development Fund, and UNESCO. The building was formally inaugurated on 16 July 1966 – 55 years ago.

## 225th Anniversary of the Bibliotheca Building



2021

Type	Silver Proof
Denomination	€10
Diameter	38.61mm
Gross Weight	28.28g
Finesse	0.925
Designer	Noel Galea Bason
Mint	Royal Dutch Mint
Mintage	1,000

On 19 July 2021, the Central Bank of Malta issued a silver coin to mark 225 years since the Bibliotheca building in Valletta was completed in 1796.

The Bibliotheca was the last major public building constructed by the Order of St John on Malta, but it is also the first purposely-built library on the island. The plans for the Bibliotheca were drawn by Stefano Ittar, a respected and well-known architect in Catania. The construction works started in 1786, but the building was not completed until 1796, just two years before the Order of St John was ousted from Malta by Napoleon.