

UKRAINIAN PHILATELY is a fascinating look of the rich, dynamic and turbulent history of Ukraine, a nation both new and old.



МАЙДАН 2013-2014



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10 COOL THINGS ABOUT UKRAINIAN PHILATELY

Presented by the Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society



ЄВРОМ

NO MATTER HOW DEEPLY YOU LOOK, THERE IS ALWAYS MORE TO DISCOVER.

3 FIRST INTERNATIONAL AIRMAIL



The first international regular airmail service flew between Kyiv and Vienna from March 31 to late October 1918. The journey by air took twelve hours.

7 TARAS SHEVCHENKO



Some countries put their presidents on stamps, others their generals, but Ukraine honors Taras Shevchenko – poet, political prisoner, artist, poet, and national hero. Every Ukrainian child knows at least one of his poems. Not surprisingly, he is the subject of more Ukrainian stamps than anybody else, as well as issues from several other nations.

8 PYSANKY



Is there anything more natural to put on a stamp than colorfully-decorated pysanky, the famous Ukrainian Easter eggs? Rich with tradition and pre-Christian imagery given religious meaning, pysanky are closely identified with the Ukrainian people. Pysanky were chosen to represent Ukrainian culture on a United Nations special issue honoring indigenous arts.

4 FIRST POSTAL CODE



Did you know that the first postal code in the world was introduced in Ukraine in 1932? It was in use until 1939. A number of Soviet postal cards were produced to promote the new system.

5 REBIRTH OF THE UKRAINIAN STATE



When the Soviet Union collapsed at the end of 1991, the Ukrainian people voted for an independent state of their own. The Ukrainian post office looked overseas to produce the first few stamps of an independent Ukraine before printing them domestically. Today's Ukrainian stamps celebrate old traditions and hail the achievements of modern Ukrainians in science, arts and culture.

9 UKRAINIANS CONTINUE TO FIGHT FOR THEIR NATION



Ukrainian stamps are as timeless as the traditions of their people, and as timely as today's news. Many stamps have celebrated the Ukrainian people's fight for independence and statehood. Several recent issues honor the men and women still fighting for their homeland. Because indeed, heroes never die, even when they are not pictured on a stamp.

6 OVERPRINTS, REDUX



When Ukraine regained its independence, postal officials faced a similar dilemma – no stamps. Again, local post offices produced a wide variety of provisionals, overprints and overprinted postal stationery, a cornucopia of issues, including many new, modern – and affordable – rarities.

10 YOU! UKRAINIAN STAMP COLLECTORS ARE AS COOL AS THE STAMPS THAT THEY COLLECT. INTERESTED? THEN JOIN THE UKRAINIAN PHILATELIC NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, THE PREMIER CLUB FOR UKRAINIAN COLLECTORS WORLD-WIDE. MEMBERS RECEIVE THE AWARDING-WINNING UKRAINIAN PHILATELIST JOURNAL AND REGULAR NEWSLETTERS.



1 TRIDENTS



People in Ukraine initially used stamps from either the Tsarist or Austro-Hungarian Empires to use on their mail. After the first Ukrainian State was established in 1918, local post offices used the national symbol – the Trident – to overprint left-over Tsarist Russian stamps. Several hundred varieties from different locales exist – some common, some rare, a few unique – a rich subject of study for the knowledgeable collector.

2 WESTERN UKRAINE

Ukrainians in Galicia formed the Western Ukrainian National Republic in 1918 out of several provinces of Austria-Hungary. Like their eastern counterparts, they overprinted a number of Austrian stamps as well.