

The habitat is rich in rare and endangered plant and animal species. Among the flora to be found are dog's mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*), scopolia (*Scopolia carniolica*), Carpathian toothwort (*Cardamine glanduligera*), alpine tozzia (*Tozzia alpina*), *Campanula napuligera*, martagon lily (*Lilium martagon*), alpine squill (*Scilla bifolia*) and *Telekia speciosa*. The forests are a haven for an enormous variety of animals. The larvae of the rare beetles *rosalia longicorn* (*Rosalia alpina*) and *Leptura thoracica* grow in the wood of dead beech trees. Amphibians are represented by the yellow-bellied toad (*Bombina variegata*), Carpathian newt (*Triturus montandoni*), and fire salamander (*Salamandra salamandra*). As for reptiles, the Aesculapian snake (*Zamenis longissimus*) is found widely in these forests, and the adder (*Vipera berus*) more rarely. Among the birds adding to the atmosphere of the forests are the black woodpecker (*Dryocopus martius*), white-backed woodpecker (*Dendrocopos leucotos*), red-breasted flycatcher (*Ficedula parva*), hazel grouse (*Tetrastes bonasia*), black stork (*Ciconia nigra*), and Ural owl (*Strix uralensis*). Also living here are the roe deer, red deer, Eurasian lynx, grey wolf, wild cat, brown bear, and European bison.

Poloniny National Park



Campanula napuligera



Longicorn



Fire salamander



Eurasian lynx



Grey wolf



Coin details

Denomination: €10

Composition: Ag 900/1000

Cu 100/1000

Weight: 18 g

Diameter: 34 mm

Incuse edge inscription in English and French:

WORLD HERITAGE – PATRIMOINE MONDIAL

Issuing volume: 10,000 coins

(comprising brilliant uncirculated and proof)

Designer: Karol Ličko

Engraver: Dalibor Schmidt

Producer: Mincovňa Kremica / Kremnica Mint

The obverse side of the coin depicts a Eurasian lynx in the setting of a primeval beech forest. At the bottom is the coat of arms of the Slovak Republic, and to the left of it is the name of the issuing country "SLOVENSKO" above the year "2015". The denomination "10 EURO" appears at the top.

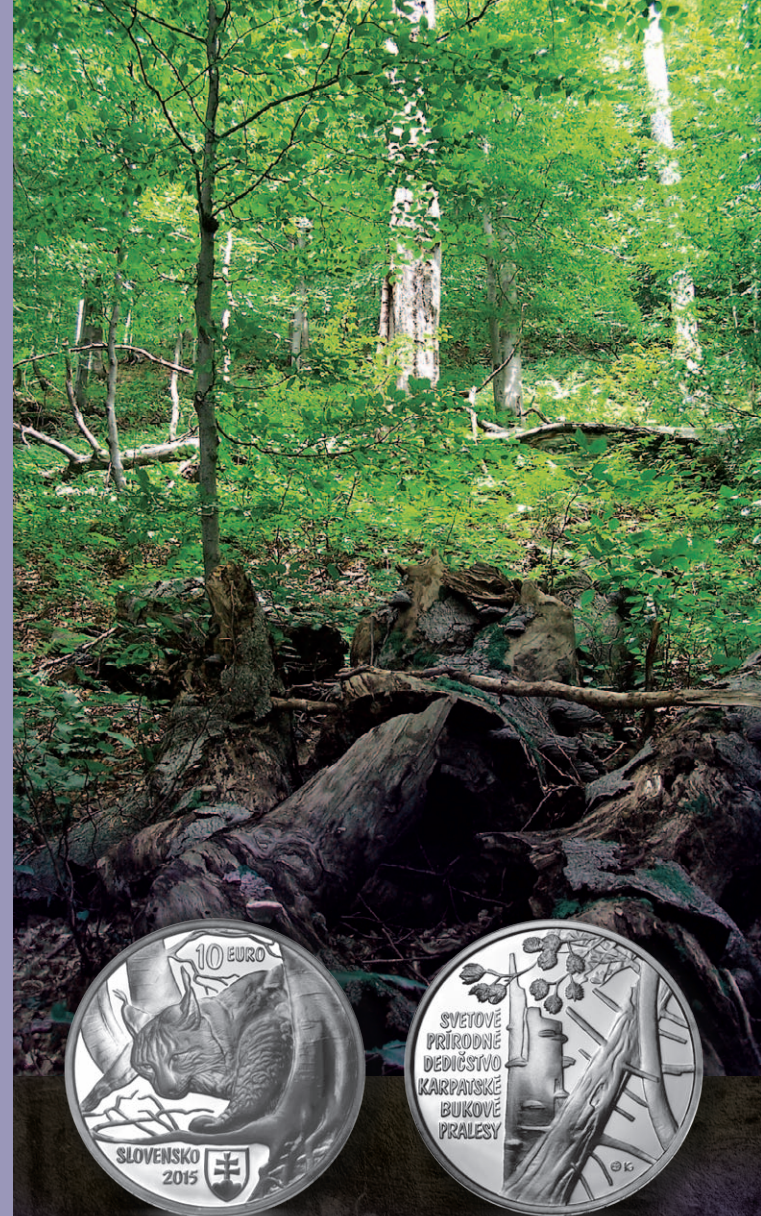
The reverse side shows dead trunks of European beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and silver fir (*Abies alba*) trees, juxtaposed with another beech tree that has leaves and is bearing nuts. On the left side is the inscription "SVETOVÉ PRÍRODNÉ DEDIČSTVO a KARPATSKÉ BUKOVÉ PRALESY". To the lower right is the mint mark of the Kremnica Mint and the stylised letters "KL", the initials of the designer, Karol Ličko.



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Photo: Matúš Halas, Martin Michálek, Bernard Landgraf,
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Progress Promotion

<http://www.nbs.sk/en/banknotes-and-coins/euro-coins/collector-coins>




World Natural Heritage Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians



Silver Collector Coin




In 1972 the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) adopted the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, which defines cultural and natural heritage and its value and aims to conserve such heritage for future generations. The sites inscribed on the World Heritage List ("the List") are outstandingly significant in terms of their cultural and natural value. At present there are seven sites in Slovakia included on the List. The Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians was approved for inscription on the List on 28 June 2007, at the Session of the World Heritage Committee held in Christchurch, New Zealand. In 2011 the inscription was expanded to include five forests in Germany, thus being renamed the Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and the Ancient Beech Forests of Germany.



The Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and the Ancient Beech Forests of Germany is a trans-national site comprising 15 separate habitats: four in Slovakia, five in Germany and six in Ukraine.



The Carpathian primeval beech forests are located along the 185 km long axis from the Rakhiv mountains and Chornohora ridge in Ukraine, over the Poloniny ridge to the Bukovské and Vihorlatské vrchy mountains in Slovakia. The Vihorlat forest lies in the Vihorlat Protected Landscape Area, while the three other habitats in Slovakia are the forests of Havešová, Rožok and Stučica, in the Poloniny National Park.



The Carpathian primeval beech forests make up a chain of enclaves of undisturbed forests, providing an extensive example of their kind. They are globally significant as a gene reservoir of beech and as a natural laboratory, playing a key role in countering the damage caused to natural habitats by global and regional environmental changes (the greenhouse effect, flooding, and drought). Some of the beech trees have exceptionally thick trunks and the tallest are up to 58 metres high, a world record for the species.

