

## Rožok

The habitat with the smallest land area is situated in the Bukovské vrchy hills, northeast of the village of Ulič and southeast of the village of Uličské Krivé. The majority of the area is pure primeval beech forest. Soils rich in humus create ideal conditions that make the site one of the most productive beech woods in Slovakia with wood reserves of 1,029 m<sup>3</sup> per hectare.



Stužica

## Stužica – Bukovské vrchy

Stužica is located in the Bukovské vrchy hills along the borders with Poland up to the Kremenc hill at the Ukrainian border, north of the village of Nová Sedlica, and stretches to the source of the River Uda-va. It has a wide altitude range, from 450 to 1,210 m above sea level. Besides beech trees over two hundred years old and extraordinarily large European silver firs (*Abies alba*), which are more than three hundred years old, there are equally large sycamore maples (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and wych elms (*Ulmus glabra*). The size and the state of preservation of its undisturbed habitats classified as primeval forest make Stužica unique not only in Slovakia but in Europe as a whole.

## Havešová

This site unfolds below the Nastaz range in the Bukovské vrchy hills, near the villages of Kalná Roztoka and Stakčinská Roztoka. This protected area is almost exclusively covered with a primeval beech forest with several valuable trees in the best stage of life, including beech trees more than 50 m tall with a trunk diameter of over 100 cm.



Vihorlat

## Vihorlat

Vihorlat is a vast complex of primeval beech forests extending along the main ridge of the Vihorlatské vrchy hills, north of Morské oko lake (Sea Eye). It includes the summit of Vihorlat and a part of the Vihorlat Protected Landscape Area as far as Fedkov hill. The forests are dominated by European beech, with occasional European silver fir, sycamore maple and European ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) but no Norway spruce (*Picea abies*). Many beech trees are 240 years old or even older.

## Coin details

*Denomination:* €100

*Composition:* Au 900, Ag 75, Cu 25

*Weight:* 9.5 g

*Diameter:* 26 mm

*Edge:* milled

*Issuing volume:* up to a maximum of 5,000 proof coins

*Designer:* Mária Poldaufová

*Engraver:* Dalibor Schmidt

*Producer:* Mincovňa Kremnica / Kremnica Mint

Prominent on the obverse side of the coin, in a circular frame, is *rosalia longicorn*, one of the characteristic species of the Carpathian primeval beech forests. In the upper part of the coin field are flowers and leaves of Carpathian toothwort. Close to the upper edge is the coat of arms of the Slovak Republic and below it the denomination and currency "100 EURO". The name of the issuing country "SLOVENSKO" is inscribed in the lower part. To the left of the beetle is the year "2015".

The reverse shows the primeval beech forest habitat with leaves and nuts of the European beech to their right. Along the left-hand edge runs the inscription "SVETOVÉ PRÍRODNÉ DEDIČSTVO" (World Natural Heritage) and opposite to it, along the right-hand edge, is the text "KARPATSKÉ BUKOVÉ PRALESY" (Carpathian primeval beech forests). The stylised initials of the coin designer Mária Poldaufová "MP" and the Kremnica Mint mark "MK" are placed in the upper left part of the coin.



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Photo: Hans Hillewaer, Ben Skála, CaptainClawHE, Jerzy Opiola, Progress Promotion

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



# World Natural Heritage Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians

## Gold Collector Coin

**The Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and the Ancient Beech Forests of Germany is a transnational World Natural Heritage site comprising fifteen separate habitats, four of which are situated in Slovakia, six in Ukraine and five in Germany.**

The site in Slovakia and Ukraine was approved by the World Heritage Committee for inscription in the UNESCO World Heritage List on 28 June 2007. In 2011, the inscription was expanded to include five forests in Germany and was therefore renamed the Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and the Ancient Beech Forests of Germany.

The site's characteristic deciduous tree species include the European beech, which is one of the dominant species of forest trees in this part of Europe. It is often found together with oak, fir or spruce in mixed woods but under certain conditions it forms authentic beech forests with a very small proportion of other tree species. The Carpathian primeval beech forests are an archipelago of undisturbed forest islands, providing a wide variety of virgin forest habitats in which beech trees achieve record sizes. Some of them have exceptionally thick trunks and the tallest reach up to 58 m, a world record for the species.

The habitats of the Carpathian primeval beech forests are rich in rare plant and animal species, many of which can only be found in this type of woods. Among



Carpathian toothwort



Liliun martagon



Yellow-bellied toad



Rosalia longicorn



Fire salamander



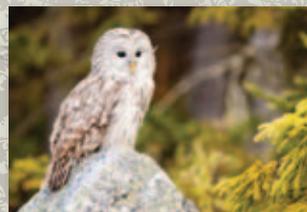
Leptura thoracica



Red-breasted flycatcher



White-backed woodpecker



Ural owl



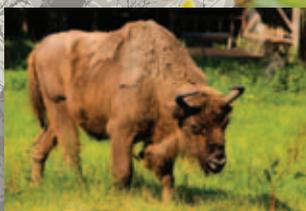
Black stork



Eurasian lynx



Red deer



European bison



the flora to be found are dog's mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*), henbane bell (*Scopolia carniolica*), Carpathian toothwort (*Cardamine glanduligera*), alpine tozzia (*Tozzia alpina*), Campanula napuligera, martagon lily (*Lilium martagon*), or heartleaf oxeye (*Telekia speciosa*). The forests are a haven for a 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. Among the birds 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*). The forests are also home to the roe deer and red deer, while predators are represented by Eurasian lynx, grey wolf, wild cat, and brown bear. The European bison (*Bison bonasus*) is another of the forests' indigenous species.

Of the four Slovak habitats, which belong to the Carpathian primeval beech forests inscribed in the World Heritage List, three habitats – the forests of Rožok, Stučica - Bukovské vrchy and Havešová – are in the Poloniny National Park, while the Vihorlat primeval forest lies in the Vihorlat Protected Landscape Area.



Brown bear