

VIENNA PHILHARMONIC

AUSTRIAN MINT

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The Austrian Mint, the largest manufacturer of gold bullion coins in Europe, issued the Vienna Philharmonic in 1989.



More than 12 million Vienna Philharmonics have been minted for the international gold market.



Austrian Mint LC (Münze Österreich AG), which in 1994 celebrated 800 years of the minting of coins in Vienna, is a public company wholly owned by the **Austrian National Bank** (Oesterreichischen Nationalbank).

Austrian Mint LC is responsible for the manufacture and international marketing of Austria's **Vienna Philharmonic** (Wiener Philharmoniker) range of gold bullion coins.

The Mint is located in the centre of Vienna, its historic buildings facing the Stadtpark, Vienna's largest public park.



AUSTRIAN MINT**FOUNDED IN VIENNA IN 1194**

The Austrian Mint traces its origins to a Vienna Mint established at the court of the Babenbergs in 1194 to mint into Wiener Pfennig coins the large ransom in silver paid to release Richard the Lionheart, the English King captured in Austria while returning from the Third Crusade.

Since that time, the Mint has been relocated three times within Vienna: operating for 355 years (1397-1752) in the Wollzeile near St Stephen's Cathedral; for 85 years (1752-1837) in Himmelfortgasse at the former winter palace of Prince Eugene of Savoy, now the headquarters of the Ministry of Finance; and for more than 160 years (since 1837, the foundations laid in 1835) at its current site in Am Heumarkt.

From the reign of Empress Maria Theresa (1740-1780) until 1918, the Mint was known as the Kaiserlich Königliches Hauptmünzamt (Imperial and Royal Central Mint). From 1918 until 1989 (apart from the period of 1938-1945 when it was controlled by the German Reich), it was known as Oesterreichisches Hauptmünzamt (The State Mint of the Austrian Republic). Since 1989, it has been known as Münze Österreich AG (Austrian Mint LC).

In former times, the Mint fell under the control of the Ministry of Finance. In 1989, however, when established as Austrian Mint LC, it became a public company, but wholly owned by the Austrian National Bank, originally established in 1816.

MANUFACTURER OF GOLD COINS SINCE 1300s

The Mint's first gold coin is believed to have been the Goldgulden of Duke Albert II (1330-1358). Over the following 500 years, the Mint struck millions of other gold coins, including Austrian Gulden (1870-1894), Corona (1892-1915) and Dukat (1872-1915), which circulated internationally up to the First World War (1914-1918).

The Mint is responsible for the production of Austria's circulating coinage, minting around 30 million coins annually, its annual capacity around 65 million coins (250,000 daily). Since 1989, it has also operated globally, expanding significantly its range of gold products and services.

Apart from continuing to restrike large quantities of historical Dukat, Corona and Gulden gold coins, it now mints many other proof gold (and silver) coins and medallions for the international market.

GOLD BLANKS AND COINS FOR OTHER COUNTRIES

The Mint is a major manufacturer of gold (and silver) blanks for mints in other countries, as well as gold coins for countries that do not have the capacity to produce them.

RANGE OF GOLD BARS

The Austrian Mint has issued an extensive range of 12 cast and minted gold bars (1 g up to 1000 g) since 1995.

Since 2002, the Mint has been a major shareholder (23.4%) of Argor-Heraeus SA (Switzerland), a leading international refiner and bar manufacturer for the international market.



The Austrian Mint, founded in 1194, has been located opposite Vienna's largest public park since 1837.



The Mint manufactures gold (and silver) blanks and coins for many other countries around the world.



The Mint has issued an extensive range of cast and minted gold bars since 1995.



CERTIFICATION

2010 ISO 9001:2008 Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance

Number of employees: 212

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION

Trade and public enquiries about Vienna Philharmonic gold bullion coins can be directed to the Marketing Department at Austrian Mint LC in Vienna:

Austrian Mint LC
Am Heumarkt 1
A-1030 Vienna
Austria

Tel: +43-1-717 15 0
Fax: +43-1-715 4070
Email: marketing@austrian-mint.at

Website: www.austrian-mint.at

VIENNA PHILHARMONIC GOLD BULLION COINS

AUTHORISATION

The Austrian National Bank has authorised Austrian Mint LC to manufacture and market internationally Austria's Vienna Philharmonic range of gold bullion coin coins.

STANDARD RANGE

The Vienna Philharmonic, launched in 1989 (10 October), is available in 4 standard sizes: 1 oz, 1/2 oz, 1/4 oz and 1/10 oz.

The 1 oz and 1/4 oz coins were issued in 1989, followed by the 1/10 oz in 1991 and the 1/2 oz in 1994.

In some languages, the name under which the Vienna Philharmonic is promoted can vary. For example: Wiener Philharmoniker (German) and Wien Kinka Harmony (Vienna Gold Harmony, translated from Japanese).

Wien is the Austrian name for Vienna.

LEGAL TENDER STATUS

Vienna Philharmonic gold bullion coins are legal tender in accordance with the Currency Act 1988.

In the "Bundesgesetzblatt für die Republik Österreich" (Government Gazette for the Austrian Republic: No 221. Reference 597. Sub-reference Section 12-2) dated 17 November 1988, the Austrian Mint was authorised to mint 1 oz and fractional ounce gold bullion coins.

The monetary face values of Vienna Philharmonic coins were originally denominated in Austrian Schilling. Since 1 January 2002, the face values have been denominated in Euro:



The famous giant wheel, in the Prater area in Vienna, highlighted the 15th Anniversary of the Vienna Philharmonic in 2004.



The Austrian Mint is a public company wholly owned by the Austrian National Bank.



Standard Vienna Philharmonics contain exactly 1 oz, 1/2 oz, 1/4 oz or 1/10 oz of fine gold.



Bullion Coin	Monetary Face Value	
	In Euro Since 2002	In Schilling 1989 – 2001
1 oz	€ 100	AS 2,000
1/2 oz	€ 50	AS 1,000
1/4 oz	€ 25	AS 500
1/10 oz	€ 10	AS 200

Specific reference to the 1 oz and 1/4 oz Vienna Philharmonic coins was first recorded in the Currency Act 1988.

Specific reference to the 1/10 oz coin was first recorded in the “Wiener Zeitung” (official gazette), dated 13 August 1991.

Specific reference to the 1/2 oz coin was first recorded in the “Wiener Zeitung”, dated 14 August 1994.

Copies of the Currency Act and relevant issues of the “Weiner Zeitung” may be obtained from the Staatsdruckerei (government printer).

LARGE BULLION COINS

In addition to the standard range, limited quantities of large Vienna Philharmonic gold bullion coins have also been minted to **commemorate** the launch of the Vienna Philharmonic in 1989.

1,000 oz coins, minted in 2004, commemorated the 15th Anniversary. Face value: € 100,000.

20 oz coins, minted in 2009, commemorated the 20th Anniversary in 2009. Face value: € 2,000.

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

VIENNA PHILHARMONIC					
STANDARD					
Category		1 oz	1/2 oz	1/4 oz	1/10 oz
Gold Content	Troy ounce	1.000	0.500	0.250	0.100
	Gram	31.1035	15.5517	7.7758	3.1103
Fineness	%	99.99	99.99	99.99	99.99
Diameter	Millimetres	37.0	28.0	22.0	16.0
Thickness	Millimetres	2.0	1.6	1.2	1.2
First Issued	Year	1989	1994	1989	1991

LARGE*			
Category		1,000 oz	20 oz
Gold Content	Troy ounce	1,000	20
	Gram	31,103.5	622.07
Fineness	%	99.99	99.99
Diameter	Millimetres	370	74
Thickness	Millimetres	c. 19	c. 8.3
Issued	Year Date	2004	2009

Source: Austrian Mint. * Minted in limited quantities in the year of issue only.

When launched in 1989, the 1 oz Vienna Philharmonic had the world's largest diameter (37 mm) for a gold bullion coin.



The legal tender status of the Vienna Philharmonic is recorded in the Currency Act 1988.



IMPORTANT FEATURES

From the Austrian Mint

The Austrian Mint is one of the oldest mints in Europe, coins having been minted in Austria (through its antecedents) for more than 800 years, the first Austrian gold coin (Goldgulden) believed to have been minted in the reign of Duke Albert II (1330-1358).

Most successful gold bullion coin issued in the European Union

Since 1989, the Austrian Mint has circulated more gold bullion coins worldwide than any other mint in Europe. In 1992, 1995 and 1996, the Vienna Philharmonic was the world’s best selling gold bullion coin in terms of new coins sold from source into the international market.

Highest purity

All coins are 24 carat. Gold purity is 99.99%. Vienna Philharmonic coins are the only European gold bullion coins, bought and sold at a low premium above the gold price, to have this high purity.

Attractive design

The Vienna Philharmonic celebrates the international fame of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as Austria’s reputation as “the land of music”. Depicting a range of musical instruments, the Vienna Philharmonic is widely recognised as the world’s most attractive gold bullion coin.

The Vienna Philharmonic received a prestigious COTY (Coin of the Year) Award in 1989 as the “Best Gold Coin of the Year” from World Coin News – Krause Publications in the USA.

Traded at low premiums

As Vienna Philharmonic coins are designed for gold investors, they are wholesaled (exclusive of distribution costs) to primary distributors worldwide at low premiums above the prevailing value of their fine gold content.

INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTION

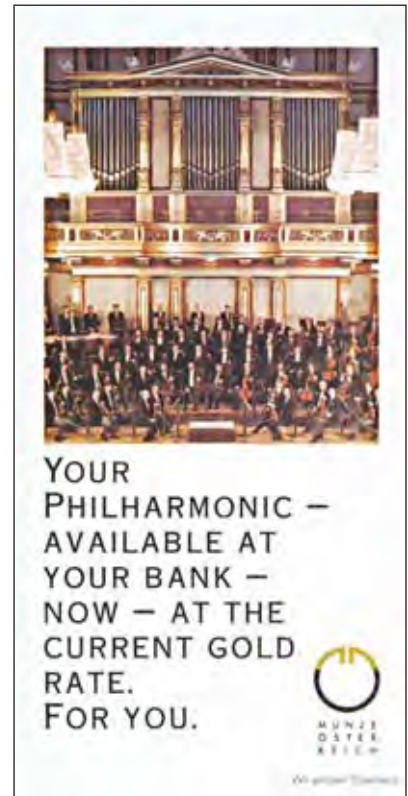
The Austrian Mint sells Vienna Philharmonic coins directly to primary distributors in bulk quantities. They are located in major gold markets and distribution centres worldwide, including:

Europe	EU and Eastern Europe
Americas	USA
Far East	Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan

As many distributors trade internationally, Vienna Philharmonic coins are widely available in many other countries around the world.



Packing 1 oz Vienna Philharmonics into tubes for the international market.



Vienna Philharmonics celebrate the international fame of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra.



Vienna Philharmonics are widely traded in Europe, North America and the Far East.



VISUAL DESCRIPTION

OBVERSE



1 oz



1/2 oz



1/4 oz



1/10 oz

The organ of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra in the Wiener Musikverein (Vienna Concert Hall), together with the inscriptions, "Republik Österreich" and "Unze Gold 999.9", as well as a reference to the numerical weight in ounces (1, 1/2, 1/4 or 1/10), monetary face value and the year date.

The Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, established in 1842, is one of the world's great orchestras. It is especially renowned for its concerts of Viennese music, including the works of Johann Strauss.

REVERSE



1 oz

An inscription, "Wiener Philharmoniker", with an illustration of musical instruments: double base, 2 cellos, 2 violins, harp, oboe and Viennese horn.

The Vienna Philharmonic was designed by Thomas Pesendorfer, the chief engraver at the Austrian Mint.



ANNUAL SALES STATISTICS

VIENNA PHILHARMONIC – STANDARD GOLD BULLION COINS						
Year	Number of Coins				Total Coins	Total Ounces
	1 oz	1/2oz	1/4 oz	1/10 oz		
1989	351,000	-	272,000	-	623,000	419,000
1990	484,500	-	162,000	-	646,500	525,000
1991	233,500	-	146,000	82,500	462,000	278,250
1992	537,000	-	176,000	99,000	812,000	590,900
1993	234,000	-	126,000	99,500	459,500	275,450
1994	218,600	57,400	121,200	112,000	509,200	288,800
1995	645,500	94,700	156,600	151,100	1,047,900	747,110
1996	377,600	88,000	139,200	128,300	733,100	469,230
1997	408,300	68,200	100,700	115,300	692,500	479,105
1998	330,300	47,300	90,800	102,800	571,200	386,930
1999	230,700	44,200	81,600	145,000	501,500	287,700
2000	245,700	20,500	25,900	32,600	324,700	265,685
2001	54,700	26,800	25,800	26,400	133,700	77,190
2002	164,105	40,922	40,807	75,789	321,623	202,347
2003	179,881	26,848	34,019	59,654	300,402	207,778
2004	183,819	24,269	32,449	67,994	308,531	210,865
2005	166,064	21,049	32,817	62,071	282,001	191,000
2006	82,174	20,085	29,609	39,892	171,760	103,608
2007	108,675	25,091	34,631	76,325	244,722	137,511
2008	715,842	73,778	97,090	176,682	1,063,392	794,672
2009	903,047	92,249	171,992	437,706	1,604,994	1,035,940
2010	501,951	56,607	84,968	226,685	870,211	574,165
Total	7,356,958	827,998	2,182,182	2,317,298	12,684,436	8,548,236

VIENNA PHILHARMONIC – LARGE GOLD BULLION COINS			
Year of Issue	Limited Number of Coins		Total Ounces
	1,000 oz	20 oz	
2004	15	-	15,000
2009	-	6,027	120,540
Total	15	6,027	135,540

Source: Austrian Mint



The Austrian Mint has minted 12 million Vienna Philharmonics for the international market since 1989.



Minting Vienna Philharmonics at the Austrian Mint.



APPENDICES

RESTRIKES OF HISTORICAL AUSTRIAN GOLD COINS

DUKAT, CORONA AND GULDEN

Since 1920, the Austrian Mint has minted millions of historical Austrian gold coins: Dukat, Corona and Gulden.

Known as “restrikes”, they are not legal tender.

All restrikes record the same year date: the year when they were last struck as legal tender coins.

In the EU, authorised restrikes are not subject to VAT. They are widely purchased as historical commemoratives at a low premium above the prevailing value of their gold content.



1 Dukat

The 1 Dukat (3.4424 g) is the most popular restrike.

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

Restrike	Gross Weight	Gold Purity	Fine Gold Content	Diameter	Year Date On Restrike	Original Period
1 Dukat	3.4908 g	98.6%	3.4424 g	19.75 mm	1915	1872 - 1915
4 Dukat	13.9635 g	98.6%	13.7696 g	39.5 mm	1915	1872 - 1915
10 Corona	3.3875 g	90.0%	3.0487 g	19 mm	1912	1892 - 1912
20 Corona	6.7750 g	90.0%	6.0975 g	31 mm	1915	1892 - 1915
100 Corona	33.8753 g	90.0%	30.4878 g	37 mm	1915	1909 - 1915
4 Gulden	3.2258 g	90.0%	2.9032 g	19 mm	1892	1870 - 1892
8 Gulden	6.4516 g	90.0%	5.8065 g	21 mm	1892	1870 - 1892

Source: Austrian Mint

SALES STATISTICS - RESTRIKES

Since the introduction of the Vienna Philharmonic gold bullion coins in 1989, 913,637 oz (28 tonnes) of Dukat, Corona and Gulden restrikes have also been sold,

Year	Total Ounces	Year	Total Ounces
1989	4,000	2001	21,166
1990	114,250	2002	1,503
1991	76,720	2003	1,139
1992	133,041	2004	14,370
1993	20,230	2005	7,535
1994	38,801	2006	620
1995	134,490	2007	624
1996	76,397	2008	23,629
1997	70,762	2009	57,714
1998	61,095	2010	6,371
1999	47,650		
2000	1,530	Total	913,637

Source: Austrian Mint



The Dukat restrikes commemorate Emperor Franz Joseph who was on the throne of Austria from 1848 until 1916.

The 1 and 4 Dukat restrikes normally account for over 95% of annual restrike sales in ounces, the small 1 Dukat alone accounting for approximately 85%.



VIENNA PHILHARMONIC – COMMEMORATIVE GOLD BULLION COINS**1000 oz**

The 1000 oz was issued in 2004 to commemorate the Vienna Philharmonic's 15th Anniversary.

The world's largest gold coin ever minted at that time, the issue was limited to 15 coins.

20 oz

The 20 oz was issued in 2009 to commemorate the Vienna Philharmonic's 20th Anniversary.

The issue quantity of 6,027 was chosen so that each of the Vienna Philharmonic's three main markets (Europe, North America and Far East) could have access to 2,009 coins in 2009.

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