

Obverse

The obverse depicts the interior of the Benedictine abbey church in Hronský Beňadik, featuring the nave's Gothic columns on either side and, in the upper centre, a monumental crucifix. The reliquary containing a relic of Christ's Blood is incorporated into the right side of the design, while the Slovak coat of arms overlays part of the left side. Inscribed along the bottom edge are the name of the issuing country 'SLOVENSKO' and the year of issuance '2025'. Just above them are the coin's denomination '10' and currency 'EURO', one above the other.

Reverse

The reverse shows a bird's-eye view of the fortified abbey complex, with the figure of St Benedict to the right. The inscription 'OPÁTSTVO SV. BENEDIKTA' ('St Benedict's Abbey' in Slovak) runs along the upper and right edge of the design. The year of the abbey's establishment, '1075', appears in the upper left. At the bottom is the name 'HRONSKÝ BEŇADIK', with the first word above the second, flanked by bunches of grapes. In the lower right of the design is the mint mark of the Kremnica Mint (Mincovňa Kremnica), consisting of the letters 'MK' placed between two dies. Directly below it are the stylised initials 'TL' of the designer, Tomáš Lamač.

Cloister of the Benedictine abbey in Hronský Beňadik

Coin details

Denomination	€10
Composition:	.900 silver, .100 copper
Weight:	18 g
Diameter:	34 mm
Edge lettering:	• ORA ET LABORA – CRUX SACRA SIT MIHI LUX
Issuing volume:	limited to a maximum of 17,000 coins in either brilliant uncirculated or proof quality
Designer:	Tomáš Lamač
Engraver:	Dalibor Schmidt
Producer:	Kremnica Mint (Slovakia)



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Original Slovak text by the Bishop of Nitra Viliam Judák
and Ivan Kiko

Translated by Národná banka Slovenska
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abbey, and Shutterstock

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950th anniversary of the
establishment of the
**Benedictine abbey
in Hronský Beňadik**

SILVER COLLECTOR EURO COIN

The Benedictine abbey in Hronský Beňadik, a village in central Slovakia, was founded by King Géza I of Hungary in 1075 and was formally consecrated in the same year. The abbey's founding charter, which includes a list of properties donated by the Hungarian king, holds a prominent place in Slovak medieval history. The king brought the Benedictine monastic order to the abbey, from where they evangelised and educated the local population.

The original Romanesque church, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Benedict, featured a nave, two aisles, and two towers—adhering to the style typical of Benedictine churches at that time.

During the period of high feudalism, St Benedict's Abbey served as a model for teaching tillage and crop cultivation. The Benedictines were also skilled in metallurgy and construction. The abbey issued various documents, authenticated deeds, resolved property disputes, maintained an archive, and also served as a place where local nobility kept valuables and important documents.



Exhibition in the abbot's wing, presenting the history of St Benedict's Abbey



A chapel in the abbey complex

The abbey is also associated with the oldest preserved manuscript from the territory of Slovakia and, according to some experts, the broader Kingdom of Hungary. The 'Nitra Gospel Book', known in Slovak as the *Nitriansky evanjeliár* or *Nitriansky kódex*, was created in the late 11th century and is a key part of Slovakia's early Christian heritage.

Following the Ottoman victory over Hungary at the Battle of Mohács in 1526 and the ongoing conflicts with and threats posed by the Turks, the Benedictines abandoned the abbey in the first half of the sixteenth century. Its estates were transferred to the administration of the Esztergom Chapter, and the abbey complex itself was transformed into a massive Renaissance fortress. In 1599, Hronský Beňadik was sacked and burnt by the Turks. The site continued to function as a fortress until the end of the Turkish incursions. The abbey complex was partly damaged in 1881 by a fire that broke out in the village, before being gradually restored. In 1929, the Salesian order took charge of the abbey, but in the 1950s, they were expelled by the communist regime. For a time, the monastery served as an internment camp for monks and nuns. After the fall

of communism, the Salesians returned to the abbey in 1990, before being replaced there in 1999 by the Society of the Catholic Apostolate, known as the Pallottines. Since 2009, the abbey has been under the administration of the Diocese of Nitra.

The abbey church's preserved treasures include a stone baptismal font from the original Romanesque church, several rare Gothic statues, a Gothic fresco of St George, and a precious relic of the Blood of Christ (donated to the abbey by the Hungarian king Matthias Corvinus in 1483). The church also houses the banner of the anti-Ottoman fighter Stephen Koháry, as well as his marble epitaph from 1664.

On 24 April 1970, the abbey complex in Hronský Beňadik was included in the list of national cultural heritage sites.



A reliquary containing a relic of Christ's Blood