



AUSTRIA | EXPO 2005 | AICHI JAPAN

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EXPO Büro Österreich - AICHI 2005
Austrian Mint Japan Office

Introducing the coin minting tradition and the technology that we take pride throughout the world

“1,000oz Vienna Philharmonic Gold Coin”

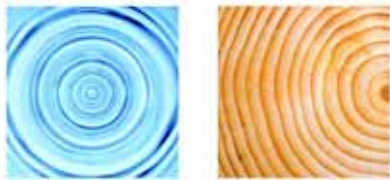
Officially acknowledged by the Guinness World Records

as the world’s largest gold coin will be on display in the Austrian Pavilion celebrating the Austrian National Day in the 2005 World Exposition, Aichi, Japan

(Wednesday, April 27 to Sunday, May 8)

On April 27, 2005, Austria will celebrate its National Day in the 2005 World Exposition, Aichi Japan. “1,000oz Vienna Philharmonic Gold Coin” which was just officially acknowledged by the Guinness World Records as the world’s largest gold coin will be on display from Wednesday, April 27 to Sunday, May 8 to celebrate this National Day at the Austrian Pavilion located in the Global Common 4 of the Nagakute area..

“1,000oz Vienna Philharmonic Gold Coin” was issued by the Austrian Mint (with headquarters in Vienna, Austria and led by President and Master Dietmar Spranz) in October 2004 to mark the 15th anniversary of the Vienna Philharmonic gold bullion coins which are the only pure gold bullion coins in Europe. Only 15 was issued world wide weighing 31.103 kg of pure gold (of 999.9 fineness equivalent to some 60 million yen market value at a retail gold price of 1,600 yen/g, including tax) and with 37 cm in diameter, the 1,000-oz Vienna Philharmonic has a face value of 100,000 euros and is accepted as legal tender in the Republic of Austria. All 15 coins were sold out in two weeks after the launch. Coin that will be on display is one that was purchased by Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo K.K., which is the sole agent of the Vienna Philharmonic coin in Japan.

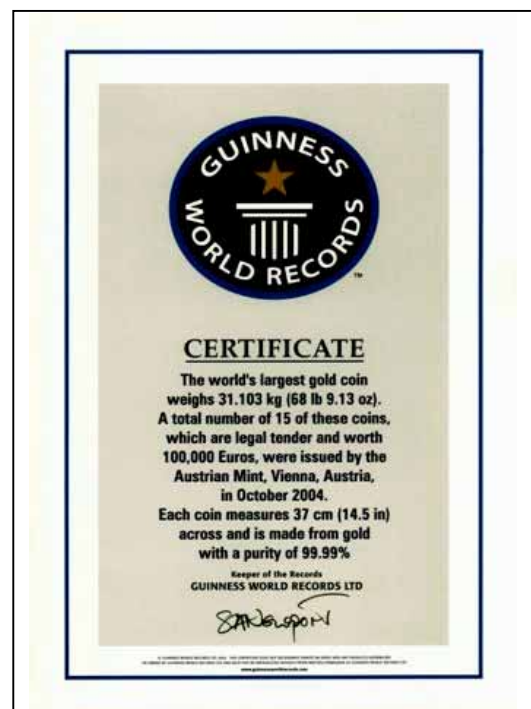


Particularly popular in Japan, elegant coin with the image of music

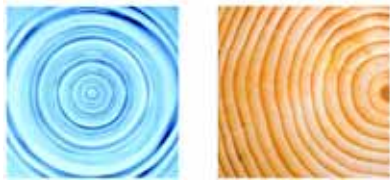
Issued by the Austrian Mint, Vienna Philharmonic gold coins were first issued in 1989. The motif of the coins is the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, one of the leading orchestras of the world. Since being made available in 1989, more than 8,200,000 Vienna Philharmonic coins of all sizes weighing 5,600,000 ounces (174 tons) have been sold throughout the world.

Vienna Philharmonic gold coins have a wide following throughout the world, and particularly in Japan where people have much attraction to the orchestral instrument and name engraved on the coin enjoy a market share of 60%.

“1,000oz Vienna Philharmonic Gold Coin” is designed in such a way that it is equivalent to exactly 1,000pieces of the regular 1 oz Vienna Philharmonic Gold Coin. It goes without saying, however, that this coin could not be struck on the same coining presses as regular gold coins. After meticulous design, computer technology was applied to sculpt the relief and the coins were then finished by hand. Exploiting the finest technologies of the Austrian Mint equal to the elaborate and refined Vienna Philharmonic gold coins, production of each coin took 130 hours.



[photo left: 1,000oz Vienna Philharmonic Gold Coin, right:Guinness certificate]



1,000 Oz Vienna Philharmonic Gold Coin

Face value	100,000 euros
Fineness	999.9 gold
Weight	31.103 kg
Diameter	37 cm
Thickness	2 cm
Designer	Thomas Pesendorfer
Year of Issue	2004
Number Issued	15 coins worldwide

To certify that a 1,000-oz Vienna Philharmonic gold coin is one of only 15 issued to mark the 15th anniversary of the Vienna Philharmonic gold coins and that it made of 1,000 ounces of pure gold, each coin is accompanied by Certificate of Authenticity signed by the President and Master of the Austrian Mint and its Vice President and the certificate issued by Guinness World Records Ltd.

* This newsrelease also distributed to Kabuto-press club, Juko-kenkyu-kai and Suginomori-press club in Tokyo.

Contact

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Website of the Austrian Pavilion: <http://www.expo2005.or.at>

Regarding the Vienna Philharmonic coin

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