

Euro - a window to cultural identity: Bank of Finland Museum's newest seasonal exhibition

The Bank of Finland Museum will launch its new seasonal exhibition today, 7 January 2009, 'Euro - a window to cultural identity'. The exhibition, which runs until 30 September 2009, commemorates the euro's first ten years: the euro was launched on 1 January 1999 as scriptural money. Euro in cash form was introduced on 1 January 2002.

The exhibition presents the motifs of the national sides of euro coins and, in this connection, the cultures of the issuing countries. The national side varies from country to country and thus shows effectively what the single currency is all about: in a multifaceted Europe, the same currency can be used anywhere in the euro area, regardless of nationality, language or culture.

The exhibition highlights one denomination from each euro area country and - via the coin motifs - presents the country's unique culture. The motifs of all the national sides are presented in the multimedia in situ as well as on the Museum's website.

The Bank of Finland Museum is situated in the Kruununuhaka quarter of Helsinki, at Snellmaninkatu 2. The Museum's permanent exhibition presents the history of money and monetary policy, the Bank of Finland's role within the Eurosystem, features of a monetary economy, as well as Finnish banknotes and coins over the last couple of centuries. The Museum's selection of multimedia exhibits leads the visitor on an interactive journey through the world of money.

Entry to the Bank of Finland Museum is free of charge. Guided tours of the Museum are also free and can be booked for groups, by prior arrangement.

For more information and press photos of the Museum and the seasonal exhibition, please see the Museum's website, www.rahamuseo.fi, or contact the Museum's Curator, Jaakko Koskentola, tel. +358 10 831 2981.



Finland 50 cent



France 5 cent



Germany €1



Malta €2