

Welcome to Belarus

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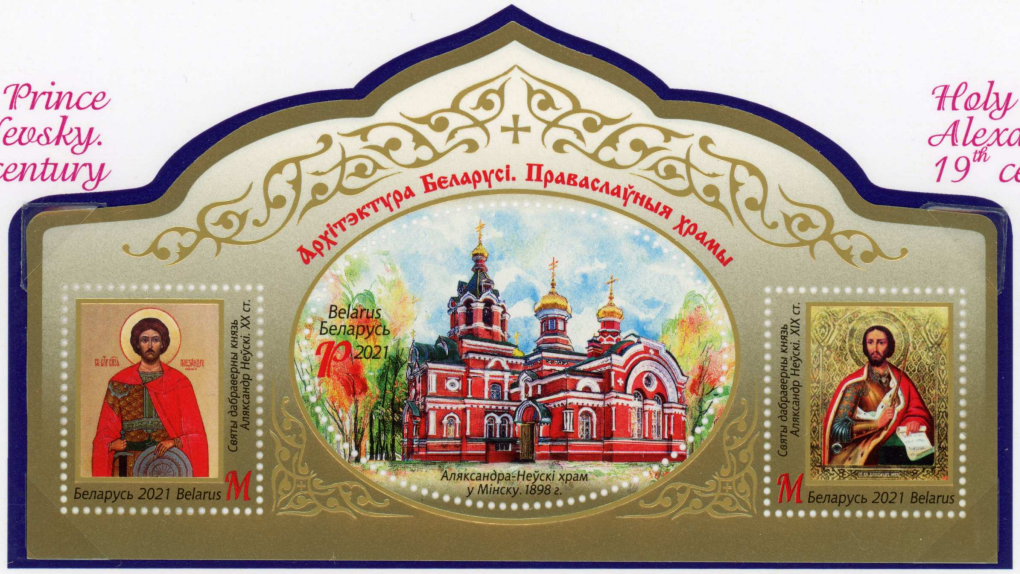
BELPOCHTA

Orthodox churches

Date of issue: September 8, 2021
Souvenir sheet composition: 3 stamps
Technique: offset,
multicoloured with additional paint like bronze colour, thermal stamping by matte foil of golden colour.
The imperforated souvenir sheet was also printed.

Holy Prince Alexander Nevsky. 20th century

WNS Number: BY036.21
Tariff: M – air-mail postcard abroad



Holy Prince Alexander Nevsky. 19th century

WNS Number: BY035.21
Tariff: M – air-mail postcard abroad

Church of the Holy Prince Alexander Nevsky. 1898

WNS Number: BY037.21 Tariff: P – air-mail letter up to 20 gram abroad

Church of the Holy Prince Alexander Nevsky, consecrated more than 120 years ago, is one of the few architectural objects of the capital, which has survived to this day almost in its original form.

It was built at the Military Cemetery in Minsk in 1898 in honor of the victory of the Russian troops in the Russian–Turkish war of 1877–1878.

Catholic churches

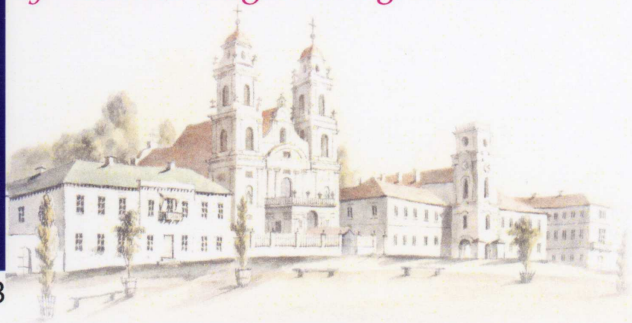
Date of issue: August 30, 2023
Souvenir sheet composition: 2 stamps
Technique: offset.
The imperforated souvenir sheet was also printed.
Tariff: P – air-mail letter up to 20 gram abroad



WNS Number: BY032.23

WNS Number: BY033.23

Archcathedral Catholic Church of the Holy Name of Blessed Virgin Mary in Minsk

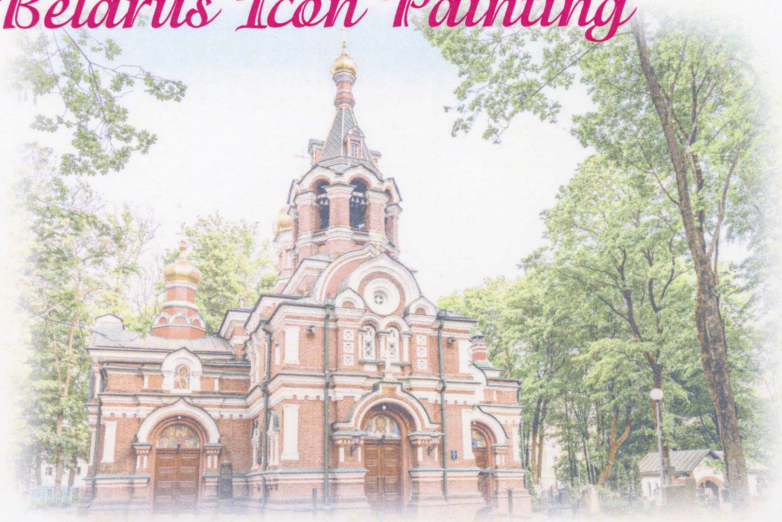


Archcathedral Catholic Church of the Holy Name of Blessed Virgin Mary is the main catholic church in Minsk. It is cathedral of the Minsk-Magiliow Archdiocese.

The temple was built in 1700–1710 as a church attached to a Jesuit monastery, which is why it is also known as the Jesuit church.

In 1798, after Minsk became part of the Russian Empire and the Minsk diocese was founded, it received the status of a cathedral and was named after the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Belarus Icon Painting



Savior Not Made by Hands. 19th century

Date of issue: September 12, 2023
Sheet composition: 6 (3x2) stamps
Technique: offset,
thermal stamping by metalized foil of golden colour on stamp margins
Tariff: P – air-mail letter up to 20 gram abroad

The Church in the name of the Holy Blessed Grand Prince Alexander Nevsky in Minsk was built in 1898 according to the project of the architect V.I. Strujew. It is a memorial church in honor of the fallen soldiers – participants of the Russian-Turkish war of 1877–1878.

The icon "Savior Not Made by Hands", painted on canvas by the famous Russian artist Nikolai Ge, is especially revered. The icon was given to the church by a parishioner at the beginning of the 20th century.





100 years of National Library of Belarus

WNS Number: BY032.22

Date of issue: September 15, 2022

Souvenir sheet composition: 1 stamp

Technique: offset, multicoloured with additional paint like bronze, thermal stamping by metalized foil of black colour.
The imperforated souvenir sheet was also printed.

Tariff: P – air-mail letter up to 20 gram abroad

Belarusian folk writers



Kandrat Krapiva

WNS Number: BY005.21

Ivan Melezh

WNS Number: BY006.21

Ivan Shamiakin

WNS Number: BY007.21

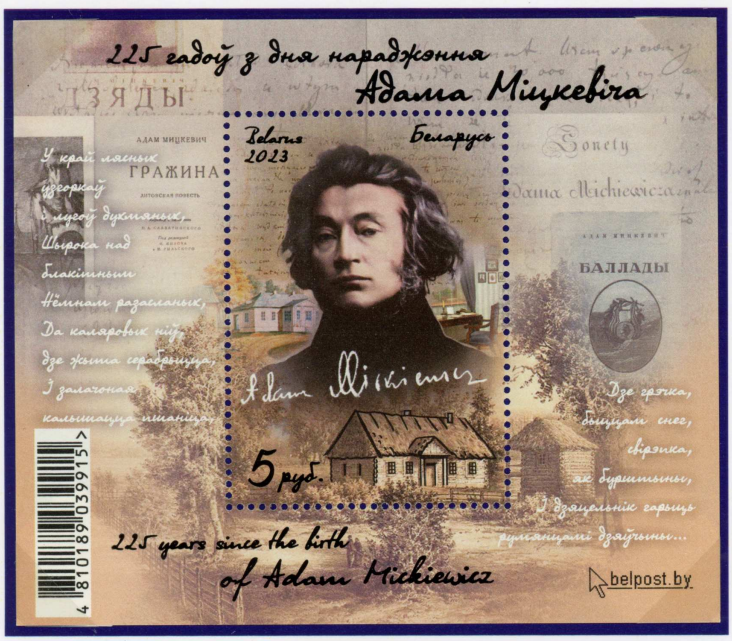


Date of issue: February 8, 2021

Souvenir sheet composition: 3 stamps

Technique: offset.
The imperforated souvenir sheet was also printed.

Tariff: N – surface postcard abroad



225 years since the birth of Adam Mickiewicz

Date of issue: November 10, 2023

Souvenir sheet composition: 1 stamp

Technique: offset, thermal stamping by metalized foil of black colour.
The imperforated souvenir sheet was also printed.

Tariff: 5 rub. – registered letter up to 20 gram abroad



Straw weaving

Date of issue: January 18, 2024
Sheets composition: 4 stamps + coupon
Technique: offset
Tariff: N – surface tariff of a postcard abroad

Straw weaving is one of the oldest crafts. Researchers believe that the ancestors of Belarusians began to use straw as a material for weaving at the turn of the 2nd–1st millennia BC.

In 2022, the Belarusian nomination "Straw weaving of Belarus: art, craft, skills" is included in the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Belarusian works made from straw have no analogues in the world. The preservation and development of straw weaving is one of the priority areas of the state's activities for the protection of cultural heritage. Artistic products and souvenirs made from straw are associated with Belarus and testify to the creative abilities and hard work of Belarusians.



Tamara Pawlowskaja. Panel "Winter" from the series "Seasons". 1984



Tamara Pawlowskaja. Panel "Spring" from the series "Seasons". 1984



Tamara Pawlowskaja. Panel "Summer" from the series "Seasons". 1984



Tamara Pawlowskaja. Panel "Autumn" from the series "Seasons". 1984

Holidays and ceremonies of Belarusians

Date of issue: July 6, 2021
Sheets composition: 5 stamps + coupon
Technique: offset



Kalyady

WNS Number: BY023.21
Tariff: A – letter up to 20 gram within Belarus

Kalyady is a fun winter holiday. An interesting tradition of caroling has survived to this day. In the evening, young people dressed up as animals and various magical creatures, went from house to house, singing songs with wishes of all the best, glorifying the power of light and playing musical instruments.

Kupalle

WNS Number: BY024.21
Tariff: N – surface tariff of a postcard abroad

The technology of augmented reality is applied to the stamp "Kupalle": when you direct a gadget camera at the stamp, while the AR MARKA BELARUS application is running, a specially created script appears.

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Kupalle is a holiday associated with a large number of legends and stories. The holiday is celebrated on the night of July 6–7 according to the Orthodox calendar and June 24 according to the Catholic calendar. One of the most mysterious rituals of this night is the search for a fern flower. According to popular beliefs, a blooming fern not only fulfills secret desires, but also helps to find treasures.



Easter

WNS Number: BY025.21
Tariff: M – air-mail postcard abroad

Easter is the main Christian holiday. The resurrection of Jesus Christ has been celebrated on this day for more than 2 thousand years. The holiday is preceded by Great Lent. This is the spiritual preparation of Christians for a significant event, to which a variety of Christian customs and rituals are dedicated. In the center of the Easter ritual is its original symbol – a painted egg.

Bagach

WNS Number: BY026.21
Tariff: P – air-mail letter up to 20 gram abroad

Bagach is a harvest holiday. It was celebrated on the day of the autumnal equinox. It was customary to bake a large loaf of bread from grain of the new harvest. A candle was inserted into it and with this "Bagach" people walked around the whole village, then they left it for a year with one of the owners.



Happy New Year and Merry Christmas!

Date of issue: October 16, 2023
Sheetlet composition: 8 stamps (1 set)
Technique: offset

New Year's wizard
Pleasant expectation

Tariff: A – letter up to 20 gram within Belarus

Believe in miracle
Holiday chores

Tariff: N – surface postcard abroad



Time for presents
Good news

Tariff: M – air-mail postcard abroad

Sweet present
Delicious treat

Tariff: H – surface letter up to 20 gram abroad

Stories and Myths

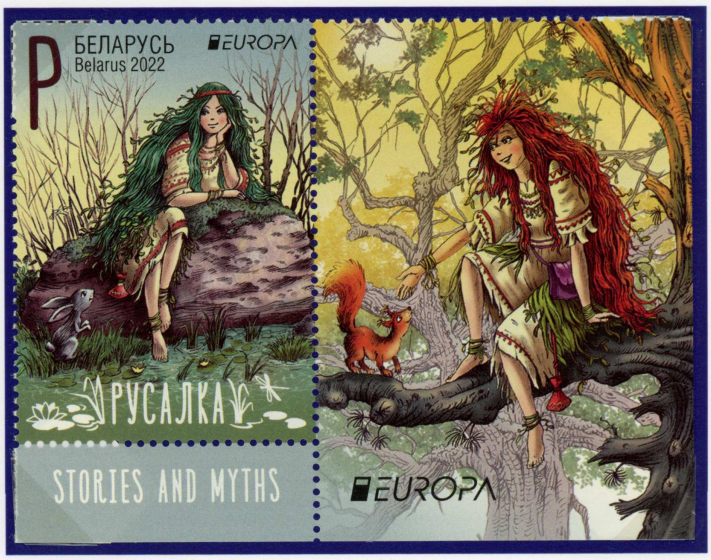
Date of issue: May 6, 2022
Sheets composition: 5 stamps + coupon
Technique: offset
Tariff: P – air-mail letter up to 20 gram abroad



Wood goblin

WNS Number: BY008.22

In Belarusian mythology, each forest has its owner – Wood goblin, who takes care of all animals and birds (saves them from fire, hunters, etc.). Wood goblin is able to increase and decrease in size, take on the appearance of various animals. It is neutral or vengeful towards a person if he violates the rules of behavior in the forest. Belief in Wood goblin contributed to the establishment of a kind of ecological balance between man and nature (forest).



Mermaid

WNS Number: BY009.22

All regions of Belarus are characterized by the idea of Mermaids as female characters, more often young girls in wreaths, with blond, brown, green or other loose hair, similar to thin stalks of sedge, with green or blue eyes, naked or dressed in white clothes or greens. Mermaids appeared in the forest, in the field, near the water. Their attitude towards a person depends on their compliance with the rules of behavior.

Belarusian folk games

Folk games are bright reflection of the way of life of people, their work, national traditions, ideas of honor, courage and resourcefulness. For many centuries, folk games have accompanied our ancestors at all stages of life.

It is unthinkable to form a person as a full-fledged personality without a game. Folk games are not only a form of active recreation, but also means of physical, mental, moral and ethical education. They form a respectful attitude to the culture of native country, create the basis for the development of patriotic feelings.

Date of issue: April 3, 2023
Sheets composition: 6 (2x3) stamps
Technique: offset
Tariff: M – air-mail postcard abroad



Game "Voronovo cast iron pot"

WNS Number: BY010.23



Play dodgeball

WNS Number: BY011.23

Belarusian cuisine

Active agriculture, the widespread use of local products, the influence of neighboring countries and settlers influenced the formation of the Belarusian cuisine.

Belarusian cuisine is one of the most diverse on the continent. It is similar to Russian, Lithuanian, Ukrainian, Polish, Jewish, but unique and tasty in its own way.

Sheets composition: 6 stamps (3+3)
Technique: offset
Tariff: P – air-mail letter up to 20 gram abroad



Cranberry juice

Draniki (potato pancakes)

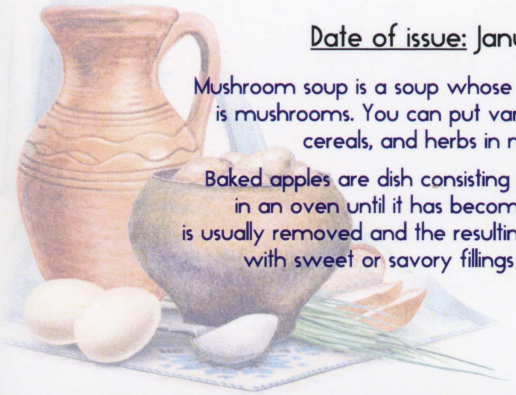
Date of issue: January 5, 2022

A distinctive feature of the Belarusian cuisine is the widespread use of potato dishes. Traditional draniki (potato pancakes) are especially popular.

An irreplaceable ingredient in Belarusian cuisine is cranberry. This is one of the most vitamin-rich berries. Our country has the largest plantations of this berry in Europe.

WNS Number: BY002.22

WNS Number: BY001.22



Date of issue: January 10, 2023

Mushroom soup is a soup whose main ingredient is mushrooms. You can put various vegetables, cereals, and herbs in mushroom soup.

Baked apples are dish consisting of apples baked in an oven until it has become soft. The core is usually removed and the resulting cavity stuffed with sweet or savory fillings and seasonings.



Mushroom soup

Baked apples

WNS Number: BY001.23

WNS Number: BY002.23



Khaladnik

Machanka

Date of issue: February 27, 2024

Khaladnik is cold summer vegetable soup made from beets, sorrel or combination of both.

Machanka is a meat or dairy dish. It is often served with pancakes.

International Year of Millets



Date of issue: October 27, 2023
Sheet composition: 6 (2x3) stamps
Technique: offset
Tariff: H – surface letter up to 20 gram abroad

The year 2023 has been proclaimed International Year of Millets by the United Nations General Assembly at its 75th session.

The goal is to raise awareness of the nutritional and health benefits of millets and their suitability for cultivation in adverse and changing climatic conditions, and to bring these issues to the attention of authorities responsible for developing policy measures.

The project was prepared in cooperation with the International Year of Millets secretariat.

The stamp, stamp margin and First Day Cover contain the logo of the International Year of Millets.

Endangered national wildlife

Date of issue: May 4, 2021
Sheets composition: 5 stamps + coupon
Technique: offset.
Element of protection – red glow in UV rays



Aquatic warbler

WNS Number: BY018.21
Tariff: H – surface letter up to 20 gram abroad



European hamster

WNS Number: BY019.21
Tariff: P – air-mail letter up to 20 gram abroad

The species presented on the stamps are included in the Red Book of the Republic of Belarus.

Aquatic warbler is a migratory species. It inhabits only open sedge lowland swamps. The aquatic warbler builds nest in Belarus, Hungary, Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Ukraine. The center of the modern area is the Polesian lowland. It appears in late April or early May and flies away in August.

European hamster is a large rodent with a beautiful variegated color. The rodent has been assigned the highest conservation status for wild populations. This is the status of critically endangered species.

A few decades ago, the European hamster was so widespread that it was considered a dangerous pest of agriculture and was subject to destruction. This led to a sharp decline in its numbers.

National park "Narachanski"

Narach region is known for its natural diversity and special landscape that was formed during the retreat of the Valdai glacier about 15–20 thousand years ago.

National park "Narachanski" was established in 1999. Reservoirs occupy about a fifth of the park. About 48% of the park's territory is covered with pine forests and birch groves. The flora is distinguished by a variety of mosses, lichens, fungi and algae.

More than 1400 species of higher plants, 314 species of vertebrates, 218 species of birds, about 35 species of fish live in the national park, on the territory of which the largest resort area of Belarus is located, uniting 11 sanatoriums and health centers.

Date of issue: August 11, 2023
Souvenir sheet composition: 1 stamp
Technique: offset.
The imperforated souvenir sheet was also printed.
Tariff: 5 rub. – registered letter up to 20 gram abroad



WNS Number: BY029.23



WNS Number: BY030.23



Features of waterfowl

Date of issue: April 19, 2023
Sheetlet composition: 4 stamps (1 set)
Technique: offset
Tariff: M – air-mail postcard abroad

Waterfowl are able to float on the surface of the water. This is facilitated by: paws-flippers, where the fingers are connected by membranes, which help the birds to row; light skeleton – the bones are thin, most of them are filled with air; dense plumage which forms a thick layer that can repel water; countless air bubbles enclosed in the plumage layers; preen gland, the secretions of which are smeared with feathers.

When birds swim, water washes only the feathers on the outside, but does not penetrate to the inner feathers and skin. Therefore, the wings of even diving birds always remain dry and having emerged, the bird can immediately take off.

Great Cormorant WNS Number: BY012.23

Eurasian Coot WNS Number: BY013.23



Mallard WNS Number: BY014.23

Great Crested Grebe WNS Number: BY015.23

Birds – winter guests of Belarus

Date of issue: October 28, 2023
Sheets composition: 5 stamps + coupon
Technique: offset
Tariff: N – surface tariff of a postcard abroad



Horned Lark



Bohemian Waxwing



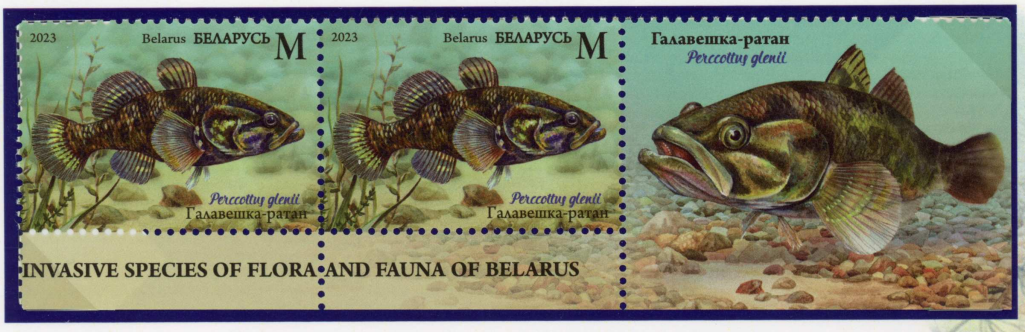
Common Redpoll



Snow Bunting

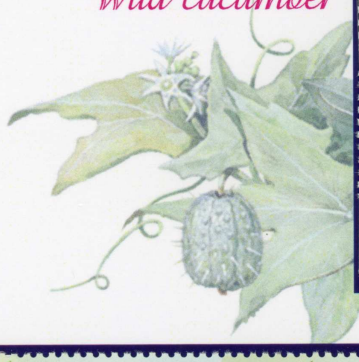
Invasive species of flora and fauna of Belarus

Date of issue: October 28, 2023
Sheets composition: 5 stamps + coupon
Technique: offset
Tariff: M – air-mail postcard abroad



Chinese sleeper





Wild cucumber



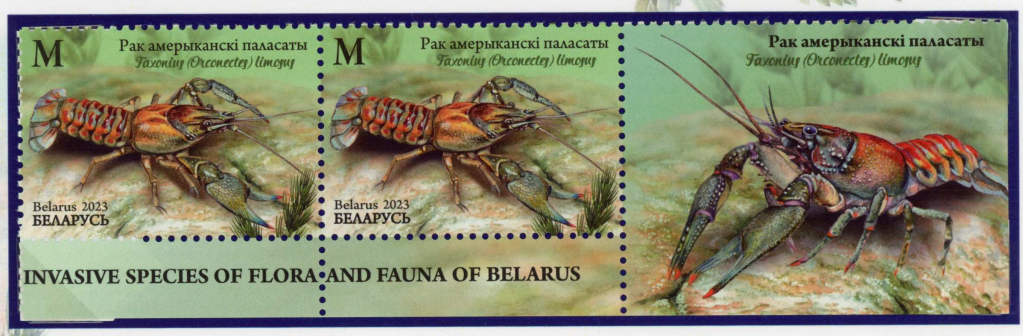


Box elder



Spinycheek crayfish





Invasive species are resettled species whose spread threatens the local biodiversity. Many invasive species are dangerous because they have no natural enemies and competitors in the new habitat, so the number of invasive organisms is growing.

Box elder and wild cucumber presented on postage stamps are characterized by rapid growth and reproduction: annually they produce abundant self-seeding, thereby displacing local plants more and more from their habitat.

Spinycheek crayfish carries crayfish plague. It poses a threat to the destruction of the crayfish population of the Republic of Belarus.

Chinese sleeper displaces other species and reduces their numbers: it eats juvenile fish, large invertebrates and amphibians.

Poisonous mushrooms

Date of issue: June 1, 2022
Sheets composition: 7 stamps + coupon
Technique: offset
Tariff: N – surface tariff of a postcard abroad



WNS Number: BY019.22

Fly agaric



WNS Number: BY020.22

Panther cap



WNS Number: BY021.22

Death cap



WNS Number: BY022.22

European destroying angel



Sheetlet composition:
8 stamps (2 sets)

Technique: offset.
The stamps are located in strips tete-beche.
The sheetlet was printed with the serial number.



125 years since the launch of the first tram in Belarus



WNS Number: BY018.23
Date of issue: June 15, 2023
Souvenir sheet composition: 1 stamp
Technique: offset
Tariff: P – air-mail letter up to 20 gram abroad

Vitebsk tram system was the first on the territory of modern Belarus and was the only one until 1929, when the tram was launched in Minsk. Vitebsk outstripped Moscow and Saint Petersburg.

The story started in 1896, when an agreement was signed between the city government and the French gentleman Fernand Guillon on the construction of an electric railway in Vitebsk.

On June 18 (old style) 1898, the first tram left the depot of the city.

After 125 years, the Vitebsk tram system is the most extensive and the most beautiful in Belarus.

150 years of Smolensk – Minsk – Brest railway

Date of issue: November 16, 2021
Sheet composition: 7 stamps + coupon
Technique: offset
Tariff: M – air-mail postcard abroad



Railway station Minsk-Vilenski. 1918

WNS Number: BY047.21

Railway station of the central station in Brest-Litovsk. 1905

WNS Number: BY048.21



November 16, 1871 is the official date of the opening of the Smolensk – Minsk – Brest railway. This became an important event in the history of the Belarusian Railway.

The line, which connected the center of Russia with Western Europe by the shortest route, became the point for the formation of the entire railway network of Belarus.

Starry sky through the eyes of Belarusians

Date of issue: July 5, 2022
Sheets composition: 4 (2x2) stamps
Technique: offset,
thermal stamping by metalized foil of golden colour
Tariff: N – surface postcard abroad



The Goat Star
WNS Number: BY024.22

The Stazharye
WNS Number: BY025.22

The Three Mowers
WNS Number: BY026.22

The Wagon
WNS Number: BY027.22

The stamps represent the most noticeable and recognizable objects of the starry sky, which in the folk tradition had several names. For the image on the stamps, the most common ones are selected.

Capella is the brightest star in the constellation Auriga. In Belarus, the star Capella was called the Goat Star.

In the constellation Taurus, the Pleiades star cluster is located – in the Belarusian tradition the Stazharye (it was presented as a set of poles for the base of the haystack).

In the constellation Orion, our ancestors singled out three central stars. They represented the so-called Orion's Belt, one of the Belarusian names of which is the Three Mowers.

The constellation Great Bear was called the Wagon in Belarus.

Constellations



The Swan constellation
WNS Number: BY006.23

The Lyre constellation
WNS Number: BY007.23

The Eagle constellation
WNS Number: BY008.23

The Swan, the Lyre and the Eagle are constellations that rise high above the horizon in the southern direction in the summer.

The main star Deneb is located in the "tail" of the Swan constellation. The star Vega shines brightly in the constellation Lyre. Altair is the brightest star in the constellation Eagle.

The named stars form the Summer-Autumn Triangle – a recognizable asterism of the Northern hemisphere of the celestial sphere.

Oriental calendar

The Oriental (Chinese) calendar is based on a 12-year lunar cycle, in which each year passes under the sign of one animal. It is believed that the sign of the zodiac animal affects the nature of each person.

The New Year according to the Oriental calendar falls on different dates between 21 January and 20 February.

2020, the Year of the White Metal Rat, opens the twelve-year cycle of the Oriental calendar.

Sheets composition: 6 (3x2) stamps
Technique: offset, thermal stamping by metalized foil of golden colour
Tariff: P – air-mail letter up to 20 gram abroad



Year of the Ox

WNS Number: BY011.21
Date of issue: February 8, 2021

2021 was the year of the White Metal Ox.

Year of the Tiger

WNS Number: BY004.22
Date of issue: January 18, 2022



2022 was the year of the Blue (Black) Water Tiger.



Year of the Rabbit

WNS Number: BY003.23
Date of issue: January 10, 2023

2023 was the year of the Black Water Rabbit (Cat, Hare).

Year of the Dragon

Date of issue: January 30, 2024



2024 is the year of the Green Wood Dragon, which came on February 10, 2024 and will last until January 28, 2025.