

Norway New Issues Have a Philatelic Bent

Recent issues from Norway explain why this Scandinavian nation are so popular with collectors around the world. One example is this souvenir sheet issued on November 21 for NORDIA 2014, the Nordic stamp exhibition that was held at the Norway Trade Fairs in Lillestrøm on November 21–23.



The first time Norway Post celebrated a stamp exhibition with special stamps was in 1955. Norway organized the international Norwex exhibition at the same time as we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the first Norwegian stamp. In 1980 Norway once again hosted Norwex.

The next philatelic event to have its own stamps from Norway Post was Nordia in Kristiansand in 2002, with stamps that celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of mathematician Nils Henrik Abel. The Nordia stamp exhibition rotates among the Nordic countries, and Norway last hosted the exhibition in Stavanger in 2008.

After six years, the Nordia exhibition was once again back on Norwegian soil. The motifs of this year's miniature sheet are related to the Norwegian Constitution Bicentenary, with the design in the pictorial margin picturing deliberations leading up to the passing of the Constitution.



A September 12 issue that also will be popular is the Posthorn 2014 issue. Some years ago, Norway Post calculated that over 5 billion posthorn stamps had been produced in this, the world's longest-running series of stamps, which explains why collecting posthorn stamps is for many people the purest form of philately.

For collectors who want to build a Posthorn Collection, Norway Post tells us, "The most important tools for a posthorn stamp collection are a good magnifying glass, Norgeskatalogen, a stamp book for sorted stamps, a watermark detector, tag measurer and, ideally, a color palette for philatelists. To look for differences, you need enough of stamps to choose from.

"You will be slow at the start, and often unsure. Use a stamp book you can annotate to make it easy to figure things out next time you open the book. After a while, you'll notice sorting stamps gets easier. A stamp collection doesn't need big goals and international glory; this is your private hobby. This year's 70 kroner stamp could be the start of an enjoyable hobby!

"In 1982 a Dane called Svend Wiegand Hansen released a book called 'Om at samle norske posthornmærker' ('Collecting Norwegian posthorn stamps'). The book offers a detailed, simple introduction to an area of collecting that can be as easy or difficult as you want."

The stamps of Norway, as well as the issues of more than 20 other postal administrations offered at face value may be accessed at the World Online Philatelic Agency, <http://www.wopa-stamps.com/>.

Information also can be found at our Stamp News Now website page:

<http://www.stampnewsnow.com/WOPA-NewIssues.html>.