

⑧ Obverse

The obverse depicts St George's Rotunda to the right of centre, overlying part of an extract from a deed in which King Albert of Hungary reaffirmed the privileges granted to Skalica. The Slovak coat of arms appears in the lower left of the design. Inscribed along the upper edge are the name of the issuing country 'SLOVENSKO', the year of issuance '2022', and the mint mark of the Kremnica Mint (Mincovňa Kremnica), consisting of the letters 'MK' placed between two dies. On the left side, above the text, are the coin's denomination '10' and currency 'EURO', one above the other.

⑧ Reverse

A historical depiction of Skalica features on the reverse from the left to right edges, with town's historical seal embedded in the lower right of the image. Along the edge of the upper half of the design is the inscription 'SLOBODNÉ KRÁLOVSKÉ MESTO' (free royal town). In the lower left, below the main image, is the name 'SKALICA' and the year '1372', one above the other. At the lower right edge are the stylised initials 'PV', referring to the coin's designer Peter Valach.



Skalica as it looked in the early 20th century

⑧ Coin details

Denomination:	€10
Composition:	.900 silver, .100 copper
Weight:	18 g
Diameter:	34 mm
Edge lettering:	• SKALICA – SLOBODNÉ KRÁLOVSKÉ MESTO – 1372 (Skalica – free royal town – 1372)
Issuing volume:	limited to a maximum of 11,000 coins in either brilliant uncirculated or proof quality
Designer:	Peter Valach
Engraver:	Dalibor Schmidt
Producer:	Kremnica Mint (Slovakia)



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**650th anniversary of
Skalica being granted
the status of a free royal town**

SILVER COLLECTOR EURO COIN

Skalica is a Slovak town on the border with the Czech Republic. It lies in the Chvojnická dolina valley where it is bordered on the south by the Chvojnická pahorkatina uplands and on the north by the Morava River basin. The territory of the town has been settled since the Early Stone Age. The first written mention of Skalica dates from a 1217 deed of donation signed by King Andrew II of Hungary, in which it is referred to as Zakolcha. Even before then, however, a fortified settlement was situated above where the town now lies, the only surviving element of which is the lower part of St George's Rotunda. Because Skalica occupied a strategic position on the western border of the Hungarian Kingdom, close to trade routes, and because he needed to strengthen his kingdom's defences, King Louis I of Hungary granted Skalica the rights of a free royal town. The document by which he conferred this status is dated 6 October 1372 and was issued in Trnava.



St George's Rotunda



Ruins of the North Gate

Although the original document was not preserved—we know about it only from a transcription—its major historical importance for the future development of the town can still be seen today. Skalica gained the right and duty to build defensive fortifications, and its citizens enjoyed a moratorium on tax and fee payments until the fortifications were completed. Goods from the town were exempted from duty and toll charges throughout the kingdom. The town was granted the right to hold weekly and annual markets. Thanks to these advantages, and to privileges granted later by Emperor Sigismund of Luxembourg and his successors, Skalica became a hub of economic, cultural and spiritual life in the broader local region.

The town fortifications, incorporating St George's Rotunda, were already in place by the time of the Hussite Wars. From the early 15th century the spiritual and social life of the town was influenced by several religious orders, which besides spreading the Christian faith, helped develop culture and education. The town's complex and turbulent history in the 16th century, and then the fires it suffered in the early 17th century, resulted in its

buildings being restored in the Renaissance style and later in the baroque style. In the 17th century, Skalica was among the most important royal towns. Several crafts became established there, guilds were founded, and trade flourished. The drapery business was important, and winegrowing was intensively developed.

The historical heart of Skalica still retains the character of a medieval town: a triangular main square; two- and three-storey houses in the centre; and one-storey houses and barns in adjacent parts. It is almost completely surrounded by fortifications. The inner streets bear witness to the wealthy class of townsmen from the town's early days, the gradual arrival of the clergy, and the presence of craftsmen and winegrowers.

Because of the heritage preserved there, Skalica was declared a conservation area in 1990.



Jesuit Church of St Francis Xavier