

Obverse

The upper half of the obverse depicts a Eurasian beaver sitting on a riverbank in the natural setting of a floodplain forest. The lower half shows two fish of species found in the Danube floodplains—the sterlet and the common carp. Inscribed on the left side, below the beaver, is the name of the issuing country 'SLOVENSKO' and, below that, the year of issuance '2025'. The Slovak coat of arms appears on the right side.

Reverse

The reverse features a little egret standing among reeds in rippling water, with two kingfishers perched on a branch above its head. Inscribed on the left side, between the egret and the branch, are the coin's denomination and currency '20 EURO'. The words 'CHRÁNENÁ KRAJINNÁ OBLASŤ' (Slovak for 'Protected Landscape Area') are inscribed along the upper left edge of the design, while the name 'DUNAJSKÉ LUHY' ('Danube Floodplains') appears along the lower right edge. To the right of the egret are the mint mark of the Kremnica Mint (Mincovňa Kremnica)—the letters 'MK' between two dies—and the stylised initials 'KL' of the designer, Karol Ličko.

Part of the Dunajské luhy PLA near Bodíky village, with a great egret and great cormorants in view

Coin details

Denomination	€20
Composition:	.925 silver, .75 copper
Weight:	33.63 g
Diameter:	40 mm
Edge lettering:	OCHRANA PRÍRODY A KRAJINY (Nature and countryside conservation); a stylised flower separates the start and end of the text
Issuing volume:	limited to a maximum of 17,000 coins in either brilliant uncirculated or proof quality
Designer:	Karol Ličko
Engraver:	Jakub Morávek
Producer:	Kremnica Mint (Slovakia)



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Dunajské luhy Protected Landscape Area

SILVER COLLECTOR EURO COIN

The Slovak stretch of the Danube River is associated by many with the Danube inland delta—a geomorphological rarity—and the Dunajské luhy (Danube Floodplains) Protected Landscape Area, as well as with the Gabčíkovo waterworks.

Established on 1 May 1998, the Dunajské luhy Protected Landscape Area (PLA) encompasses the largest floodplain wetland ecosystem in Slovakia and covers a total area of almost 12,285 hectares.

The great diversity of natural conditions and plant communities in the PLA is reflected in its numerous species of fauna. The conditions here are ideal for aquatic and wetland fauna, as well as species typical of deciduous forests and forest-steppe habitats. Insects are the most numerous group. Among the most striking insects of the floodplain forests are the many species of dragonflies, including the green snaketail, which is associated with flowing waters.

The fish fauna is also very rich. The native common carp, known locally as 'sazan', is a



Banded demoiselle



Eurasian beaver

focus of conservation efforts. The sterlet is considered a key species in terms of indicating water quality. The rare European mudminnow appears in smaller, drying areas of wetlands, while species such as the huchen (also known as the Danube salmon) can be found in the Danube's main channel. The floodplain forest and wetland environment is also ideal for amphibians.

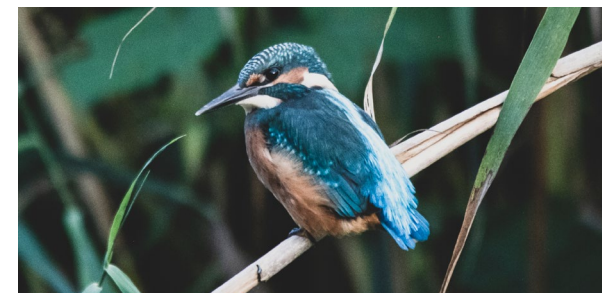
The Danube floodplain area is particularly important for birds. Old forest stands host the highest bird densities—extremely high in the case of some species—because they provide ideal nesting conditions. Notable among the floodplains' bird species are the Eurasian wryneck, black woodpecker, willow tit, and spotted flycatcher. The Danube floodplains are among the most important Slovak areas for nesting bird species such as the white-tailed eagle, little egret, black kite, little bittern, Mediterranean gull, common tern, kingfisher, and garganey.

The floodplains are home to almost all the mammal species typical of deciduous forests: hedgehogs, martens, foxes, badgers, roe deer,

wild boar, and red deer. Bats roost in old tree hollows. One of Europe's rarest and shyest mammals, the river otter, is also native to the floodplains. In recent years, the Eurasian beaver has re-established itself here after nearly becoming extinct in Slovakia.

The floodplain ecosystem is intrinsically linked to water, forming naturally on riparian sediments as they become colonised by continuous stands of willows and poplars. The bare sediments can thus transform relatively quickly into dense forest.

The beauty and wildness of the Danube floodplains' natural environment have gradually faded due to human activity. Much of the area's original and diverse floodplain forests have been cut down and replaced with a single species of non-native cultivated poplar. Insensitive construction activity and the development of so-called recreational facilities within the PLA are threatening the last remnants of the area's natural floodplain habitats and the final refuges of rare plant and animal species—as well as the landscape itself. The preservation and protection of this area is therefore essential for the survival of its unique floodplain ecosystem.



Kingfisher