



New Year's Day 2009 will be a historic day for the European Union. On this date, Slovakia will join Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain in the euro area and will adopt the euro as its currency.

This leaflet has been published jointly by Národná banka Slovenska and the European Central Bank to introduce you to the new currency, which will become part of your everyday life on 1 January 2009, when the seven euro banknotes and eight euro coins will become legal tender in Slovakia.

You will still be able to pay with koruna banknotes and coins until 16 January 2009. Banks in Slovakia will exchange koruna banknotes free of charge until the end of 2009 and coins free of charge until the end of June 2009, but they can limit this free exchange to a maximum of 100 banknotes and 100 coins per person per transaction. Národná banka Slovenska will exchange coins until the end of 2013 and banknotes and collector coins indefinitely.

We hope that you will find this leaflet an informative guide to this momentous change.

Jean-Claude Trichet  
President of the European Central Bank



Ivan Šramko  
Governor of Národná banka Slovenska



[www.euro.ecb.eu](http://www.euro.ecb.eu)

[www.euromena.sk](http://www.euromena.sk)

## The euro coins

The coins range from €2 to 1 cent in value and each one has a "European" side and a "national" side. The European side shows either the EU before its enlargement in May 2004 or a geographical image of Europe. The national side varies from country to country. Despite these differences, you can use any euro coin anywhere in the euro area.

### The European sides



### The national sides of Slovakia's coins



The €2 and €1 coins depict a double cross on three hills, as featured in the national emblem of Slovakia.

The 50, 20 and 10 cent coins show Bratislava castle and the national emblem of Slovakia.

The 5, 2 and 1 cent coins feature the Tatra Mountains' peak, Kriváň, a symbol of the sovereignty of the Slovak nation, and the national emblem of Slovakia.

## More information on the euro

For more information on the euro, please contact Národná banka Slovenska or the European Central Bank.

Ďalšie informácie o eure Vám poskytnie Národná banka Slovenska alebo Európska centrálna banka.

Az euróval kapcsolatban további felvilágosításért forduljon a Národná banka Slovenskához vagy az Európai Központi Bankhoz.

Vaš buter informaciji pedal euroste vičinen Slovačiko themutno lovengero kher vaj Europsko centralno lovengero kher.

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€1 =  
Sk 30.1260



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€-day = 1 January 2009  
**READY FOR THE EURO?**



# THE SECURITY FEATURES OF THE EURO BANKNOTES

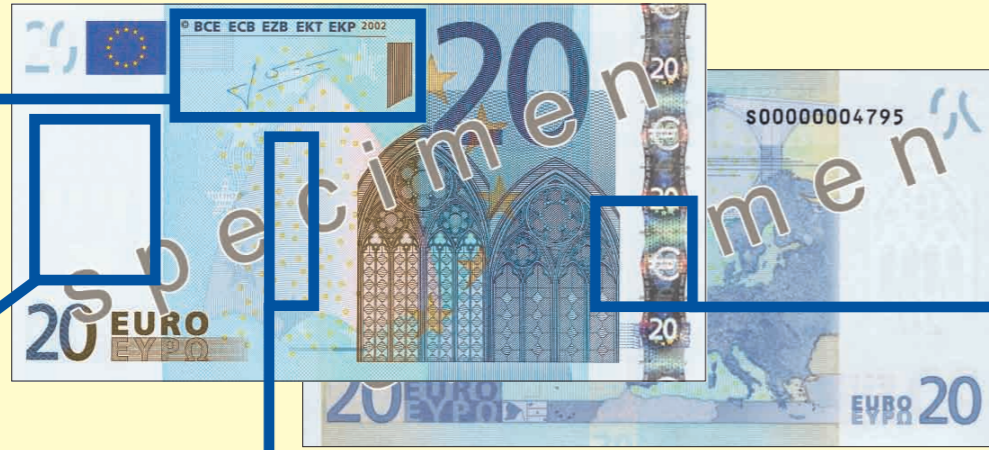
Various security features will help you to recognise a genuine euro banknote. Just check if:

- ✓ The banknote paper is crisp and firm. It feels thicker in some parts.
- ✓ The main motif reappears in both the watermark and the hologram on the €50, €100, €200 and €500 banknotes.
- ✓ The value of the banknote appears in the watermark, the security thread, the hologram and in the colour-changing number.



## FEEL OF THE PAPER

It should be crisp and firm. Run your finger across it and you will feel that the ink is thicker in some parts.



## HOLOGRAM

Tilt the banknote. It shows the value of the banknote and the euro symbol (€).



## WATERMARK

Hold the banknote against the light and a shadow-like image and the value numeral become visible.



## SECURITY THREAD

Hold the banknote against the light and a dark line running through the banknote becomes visible.



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## SECURITY THREAD

Hold the banknote against the light and a dark line running through the banknote becomes visible.



## COLOUR-CHANGING NUMBER

Tilt a €50, €100, €200 or €500 banknote. On the back, the number changes colour from purple to olive green or brown.



## HOLOGRAM

Tilt the banknote. It shows the value of the banknote and a window or doorway.

