



## Media release

4<sup>th</sup> June 2009

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# The new commemorative coins from Swissmint: “Brienzi-Rothorn Railway” and “Pro Patria”

The Swiss Confederation is issuing two new commemorative mintings on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2009. The 20-franc silver coin “Brienzi-Rothorn Railway” continues the special series of coins dedicated to the theme of mountain railways. In addition, a gold coin with a nominal value of 50 francs is being issued to celebrate the centenary of the Pro Patria charitable foundation. The net receipts from the sale of the coins will benefit cultural projects.

### Brienzi-Rothorn Railway

With the new “Brienzi-Rothorn Railway” commemorative coin, the Federal Mint Swissmint is continuing the special coin series on the theme of mountain railways on which it embarked last year. The silver piece with the nominal value of 20 Swiss francs is available from 4<sup>th</sup> June 2009 in the minting qualities “uncirculated” and “proof” (highest minting quality) in a presentation case from coin dealers, banks and at [www.swissmint.ch](http://www.swissmint.ch).

Since 1892, the trains of the Brienzi-Rothorn Railway have chugged their way to the summit of the Rothorn. As the oldest steam cog railway in operation in Switzerland, during the summer months each year it takes trippers on a journey back to the pioneering days of the railway. Steam nostalgia is also the theme of the new commemorative coin: the designer Benno K. Zehnder has taken historic locomotive number 7 as his subject and placed it in an idyllic mountain scene.

## **100 years of Pro Patria**

To mark its centenary, the Pro Patria foundation is receiving a special gift from the Swiss Confederation: the official 2009 gold coin. The commemorative coin was designed by the artist Hans Erni. Like Pro Patria, he also celebrates his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2009. The subject he has chosen for the gold coin is a couple “facing the future with confidence”, as Hans Erni describes it. It is intended to symbolise trust in a peaceful future.

The commemorative coin has a nominal value of 50 Swiss francs and is available from 4<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at [www.swissmint.ch](http://www.swissmint.ch) or from coin dealers and banks.

## **Text and pictures**

Available to download from Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at:

<http://www.swissmint.ch/en-latestnews-mediainformation-pressreleases.html>

<http://www.swissmint.ch/en-latestnews-mediainformation-presspictures.html>

<http://www.brienz-rothorn-bahn.ch/bahn/dampf-romantik/album/?lang=en>

<http://www.propatria.ch>

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## Factsheet

### Silver coin “Brienzi-Rothorn Railway”

“Mountain Railways” series



Images shown enlarged

*Caption:* The romance of steam in the Bernese Oberland: The new Swiss commemorative coin “Brienzi-Rothorn Railway”

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <i>Effigy</i>               | “Brienzi-Rothorn Railway”  |
| <i>Artist</i>               | Benno K. Zehnder, Gelfingen  |
| <i>Technical data</i>       | Alloy: Silver 0.835<br>Weight: 20 g<br>Diameter: 33 mm   |
| <i>Legal face value</i>     | 20 Swiss francs  |
| <i>Date of issue</i>        | 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2009  |
| <i>Mintage</i>              | Standard coinage, uncirculated: max. 50,000 coins<br>Proof coin in presentation case: max. 7,000 coins |
| <i>Guide prices</i>         | Standard coinage: CHF 20.-<br>Proof: CHF 55.-  |
| <i>Sales</i>                | Coin dealers, banks and online<br>at <a href="http://www.swissmint.ch">www.swissmint.ch</a>            |
| <i>Coined and issued by</i> | Federal Mint Swissmint<br>CH-3003 Bern<br><a href="http://www.swissmint.ch">www.swissmint.ch</a>       |

## Factsheet

### Gold coin “100 years of PRO PATRIA”



Images shown enlarged

*Caption:* Designed by Hans Erni: The “100 years of PRO PATRIA” commemorative coin

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <i>Effigy</i>               | “Pro Patria”   |
| <i>Artist</i>               | Hans Erni, Lucerne   |
| <i>Technical data</i>       | Alloy: Gold 0.900<br>Weight: 11.29 g<br>Diameter: 25 mm  |
| <i>Legal face value</i>     | 50 Swiss francs  |
| <i>Date of issue</i>        | 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2009  |
| <i>Mintage</i>              | Proof coin in presentation case: max. 6,000 coins  |
| <i>Guide price</i>          | CHF 470.-  |
| <i>Sales</i>                | Coin dealers, banks and online<br>at <a href="http://www.swissmint.ch">www.swissmint.ch</a>      |
| <i>Coined and issued by</i> | Federal Mint Swissmint<br>CH-3003 Bern<br><a href="http://www.swissmint.ch">www.swissmint.ch</a> |