

Design: Vito Noto

Vito Noto, the product designer born in Ragusa in 1955, came from a family of wainwrights and completed his studies at the "Scuola Politecnica di Design" in Milan in 1976. His teachers and lecturers included famous Italian and international design names. After his studies, he gained extensive experience with designers in Zurich, Hamburg and Paris. Swiss resident Vito Noto's wide-ranging project work means he is always in search of diversity and the meaning of the values of the things which surround us. He designs home and office objects for internationally renowned brands. He also designs machinery and equipment for a wide range of industrial purposes. Vito Noto has received many international awards, including the Compasso d'Oro and the 1995 Design Prize Switzerland. He is always open to innovation and is constantly in search of the "definitive" project. www.vitonotodesign.com.



Characteristics

Effigy

Furka Pass

Artist

Vito Noto, Cadro

Technical data

Alloy: Silver 0,835

Weight: 20g

Diameter: 33 mm

Legal face value

20 Swiss francs

Date of issue

12 September 2019

Selling period

Up to 11 September 2022

or while stocks last

Mintage

Uncirculated coin:

20,000 pieces

Proof coin in presentation case:

5,000 pieces



Coined and issued by

Federal Mint Swissmint

CH-3003 Bern

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www.swissmint.ch

Official commemorative coin 2019

Furka Pass Swiss Alpine passes



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Confederaziun svizra

Swissmint



Official commemorative coins

Each year, the Federal Mint Swissmint issues a small number of commemorative coins featuring carefully selected subjects. The coins in bimetall, silver and gold bear an official nominal value and are available in various minting qualities – as collectors' pieces in their own right or as an exquisite gift.

Furka Pass

At an altitude of 2,429 metres above sea level, the Furka Pass is one of the highest and most impressive Alpine passes in Switzerland. It connects the hamlet of Gletsch in the canton of Valais with Andermatt in the canton of Uri and, together with the Oberalp Pass, forms an east-west link within the Alps. The area is one of the snowiest in Switzerland. The European watershed runs along the pass: the Rhone flows southwest towards the Mediterranean, while the (Furka-)Reuss sweeps northeast into the Rhine and the North Sea.

The first landmark event in Furka Pass traffic to be documented was around the 12th century, when hundreds of German-speaking Walser people settled with their families in the Urseren Valley or even further

east in Raetia. In the 14th century, the route over the pass summit at 2,429 metres a.s.l. gained in importance for the Walser people because it granted them direct access to the transalpine axis via the Gotthard. Between 1,864 and 1,866, the almost 40-kilometre-long and at least 4.20 metres wide road from Hospental to Oberwald was built by the cantons of Uri and Valais. Whether by bicycle, motorbike, car, postal bus or historic steam train on the cogwheel mountain route – every year more than 250,000 people cross the Furka Pass and enjoy the spectacular view. For example from the famous Hotel Belvédère on the Rhone glacier or the surrounding alpine granite world.