

CHRISTMAS 2021



For sending seasonal greetings by post in 2021, Magyar Posta, as in previous years, is releasing a self-adhesive postage stamp with no value indication and the inscription “Domestic”. The standard edition is in sheets of fifty stamps, while the special pine-scented edition is in a miniature sheet of five stamps. The main motif of the stamp design is one of the symbols of the holiday, the pine tree. The stamp was designed by the graphic artist Krisztián Daniel and produced by Codex Értékpapírnymda Zrt. The new releases will be available at first day post offices and Filaposta in Hungary from 25 October 2021, and may also be ordered from Magyar Posta’s online store.

Honouring evergreen plants was part of the traditions of Germanic, Roman, Egyptian and Celtic cultures. Some sources suggest that it was a medieval custom to fell a young tree to represent the early sacrifice of a life similarly to Jesus, who gave his life for humanity while he was young. The first record of a Christmas tree dates from the end of the 15th century, while the first documentary evidence of the sale of Christmas trees comes from 1521. The records show that the first Christmas tree was erected in Hungary in 1814.

The press sheet of 50 stamps printed by the flexographic technique is enlivened by visual elements and festive greetings in Hungarian, English, German and French on the barcode and on the lower selvedge. In order to aid separating the stamps from the sheet, the grid was previously removed during printing.

On the miniature sheet, the flexographic printing of the design of the stamps was complemented with unobtrusive spot varnish, and elegant sparkling snowflakes complete the composition. On the surface of the central part of the stamp surrounded by pine branches, there is a layer of spot varnish, which contains microcapsules of the unique scent of pine trees that can be smelt by rubbing with a finger.

The main element of the accompanying first day cover and postmark is the snowflake.

This year, as in previous years, between 28 November and 26 December 2021 customers can send their seasonal mail with a special festive postmark for a fee. This Christmas Postmark service may be requested at any post office. The standard versions of the postmarks using green ink as well as the mark “Karácsonyi Posta” (Christmas Post) can be seen on the right of the picture.

Order code:

2021350010031 (stamp)
 2021351040031 (50-stamp sheet)
 2021350060032 (FDC with stamp)
 2021340040031 (special miniature sheet)
 2021340060032 (FDC with special stamp)

Issued on: 25 October 2021

Face value/selling price: Domestic
(On the date of issue equivalent to postage of HUF 145 paying for a domestic non-priority letter up to 50 g, or postcard or picture postcard.)

Printing technique: flexographic + for the miniature sheet sparkling and pine-scented spot varnish

Number of copies:
 dependent on demand (initial runs: 1,200,000 stamps, 10,000 miniature sheets)

Perforated size: 26 × 33 mm

Imperforated size of miniature sheet: 29 × 220 mm

Paper type: self-adhesive, matt eco-paper, with soak-off stamp paper for the miniature sheet

Printed by
 Codex Értékpapírnymda Zrt.

Designed by Krisztián Daniel