



The city of Okhtyrka in Sloboda Ukraine (a region that partly lies in the northeast of modern Ukraine) is a spiritual, cultural and historical center that has an interesting, centuries-old history.

The first record of the city goes back to 1641, when Ukrainian Cossacks built the Akhtyrsk border fortress on Mount Akhtyr.

Reminders of the glorious Cossacks from the Okhtyrsk Sloboda Cossack Regiment can be seen in the city's administrative division into hundreds (companies in a Cossack army), a restored Cossack well, and preserved artifacts from the Cossack age in the city's National Studies Museum.

There are several theories as to the origin of the city's name. In Turkic, "akhtyr" means a place where something is released downstream or where an ambush is set up; "akhinty" is a body of water flowing between two lakes, and the Okhtyrka River flows precisely between two lakes: Lake Bile and Lake Zelene.

The wonderful land of Okhtyrka has produced many world-famous people: scientists, writers, singers and artists. In particular, writer Ivan Bahrianyi (whose real name was Ivan Lozoviahin) was born in Okhtyrka. Bahrianyi wrote "Tiger Trappers," "The Garden of Gethsemane," "Wild Wind" and other novels and poetry. In 1963, Bahrianyi was nominated for the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Commemorative medal

Okhtyrka – City of Heroes



National Bank
of Ukraine

Okhtyrka has always been famous for its churches, as the church and spirituality played an important role in people's lives. The city's main landmark is the Pokrovsk Cathedral – an architectural monument built in the Ukrainian Baroque style and consisting of three churches that were constructed at different times: the Pokrovsk Cathedral itself, the Church of the Presentation and Bell Tower, and the Nativity Church.

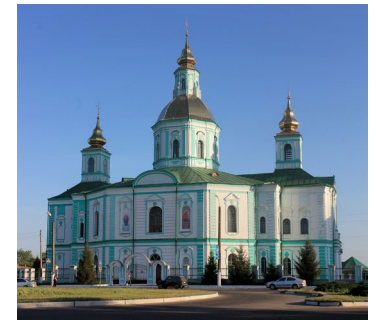


Photo: Denis Vitchenko

Interestingly enough, the city – which is one of the centers of the oil and gas industry – has always been renowned for its orchards, especially cherry and plum ones.

Despite being badly damaged in the first days of the full-scale invasion, it held out through putting up strong and fierce resistance against the enemy. Like many other Ukrainian cities, Okhtyrka will be rebuilt, joyous laughter will once again ring through the city's streets, and the friendly city will be happy to welcome guests again!

Designer – Maryna Kuts.

Computer-aided design by Yurii Lukianov.

OKHTYRKA – CITY OF HEROES

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Issue date

28 February 2023

Metal

nickel silver

Diameter

35.0 mm

Quality

special uncirculated

Edge

smooth

Issue numbers

up to 100,000

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