

Opishnia ceramics is a remarkable phenomenon of Ukrainian material culture, combining ethnic heritage, artistic originality, and a high level of pottery craftsmanship. The origins of Opishnia ceramics trace back to the 17th century, but it saw its most significant development in the 20th and early 21st centuries in the village of Opishnia (ethnotoponym: Opishne) in Poltava oblast.

The works of the Opishnia masters cover a wide spectrum of forms and types, including kitchen and tableware, zoomorphic and narrative sculptures, architectural ceramics, ritual objects, and toys. Their unique features are rich ornamentation, particularly baroque-style plant motifs, and applied decorative elements, which give the works their expressive artistic character.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Opishnia ceramics underwent an artistic renewal. Prominent Ukrainian artists, including Vasyl Krychevskyi, Serhii Vasylkivskyi, and Opanas Slaston, among other members of the national intelligentsia, made a significant contribution to the development of the style by blending folk tradition with the contemporary artistic trends of the time.

Commemorative coin

THE CERAMICS OF OPISHNIA



 National Bank
of Ukraine

In 1894, the first exemplary pottery training workshop in Dnieper Ukraine was opened in Opishnia. Since then, the center for the professional training of potters has gradually transformed into a modern educational institution: The Vasyl Krychevskyi Opishnia State Art Lyceum. Today, it is one of the few educational centers in Ukraine where children can gain basic professional pottery skills from a young age.

The National Museum-Reserve of Ukrainian Pottery in Opishnia, the largest in Europe, holds the most extensive collection of Opishnia ceramics. Its collection contains a wide variety of works that demonstrate the regional specifics and evolution of the artistic style. The museum's exhibits are an integral part of Ukraine's national cultural heritage.

In 2012, Opishnia ceramics was added to the National List of Ukraine's Intangible Cultural Heritage, confirming its significance as a unique ethno-cultural phenomenon and a vital factor in preserving national identity.

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THE CERAMICS OF OPISHNIA

NATIONAL BANK OF UKRAINE

Ukraine's small coat of arms

fragments of the distinctive applied decor typical of zoomorphic sculptures

issue year

legend "Ukraine"

face value and graphic symbol of the hryvnia

mint mark of the NBU's Banknote Printing and Minting Works

legend "Opishnia ceramics"

elements of traditional ornamental decor, particularly plates

zoomorphic sculpture titled "The Lion" (has a decorative element with color printing)

Issue date

5 August 2025

Metal

nickel silver

Diameter

35.0 mm

Quality

special uncirculated

Edge

grooved

Mintage

up to 75,000