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Press stories

Launch of the new 500-krone banknote

The new 500-krone banknote is launched on 15 February 2011 as the fourth banknote in the new banknote series. The banknotes are designed by the artist Karin Birgitte Lund. The front page of the banknote depicts the bridge Dronning Alexandrine's Bro. The bridge which links Zealand to the island of Møn is also known as the Møn Bridge and was inaugurated in 1943. On the back of the 500-krone banknote the bronze vessel from Keldby on the island of Møn is depicted. The bronze vessel was found during ploughing not far from "Trehøje" in the beginning of the 1800s. The vessel is exhibited in the National Museum of Denmark in Copenhagen.

The 500-krone banknote, together with the 100- and 200-krone banknote, is among the most common banknotes used in ATM's. There are approximately 28 million 500-krone banknotes in circulation compared to a total number of banknotes of 163 million. The banknote stands for one fourth of the total value of notes in circulation of just over kr. 56 billion.

The motivation for issuing the new Danish banknote series is to improve the security features. The new banknotes have a number of advanced security features, including a hologram and a window thread with a moving wave pattern. The security features are to make it even more difficult to counterfeit the banknotes.

The banknotes also have security features that are not visible to the naked eye. When placing the banknote under a microscope, it shows micro-lettering with hidden symbols and numbers e.g. in the water surface next to the belt plate.

After the 500-krone banknote the 1000-krone banknote will be launched in May 2011 as the last banknote in the new banknote series. The 50-krone banknote was launched in August 2009, the 100-krone banknote in May 2010 and the 200-krone banknote in October 2010.

Exchange of banknotes

The 500-krone banknote from the 1997-series will still be legal tender. All Danish banknotes issued since the substitution of money in 1945 can be exchanged at face value at Danmarks Nationalbank.

Via the Danish commercial and savings banks old banknotes return to Danmarks Nationalbank where they are counted and incinerated. Danmarks Nationalbank has asked the Danish commercial and savings banks to return all of their old 500-krone banknotes in order to quickly put the new banknote series into circulation.

Read more about the new banknotes at nationalbanken.dk.

For further information, please contact Danmarks Nationalbank at kommunikation@nationalbanken.dk or by telephone: +45 33 63 70 00.