



New Year's Day 2008 will be a historic day for the European Union. On this date, Malta, as well as Cyprus, will join Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain in the euro area and will adopt the euro as its currency.

This leaflet has been published jointly by the Central Bank of Malta and the European Central Bank to introduce you to the new currency, which will become part of your everyday life as from 1 January 2008, when the seven euro banknotes and eight euro coins will become legal tender in Malta.

From 1 January until 31 March 2008 you will be able to exchange Maltese lira banknotes and coins for euro, free of charge, at local banks. The Central Bank of Malta will continue to exchange Maltese lira banknotes into euro until 31 January 2018 and coins until 1 February 2010.

We hope that you will find this leaflet an informative guide to this important change.

Jean-Claude Trichet
President of the European Central Bank



Michael C. Bonello
Governor of the Central Bank of Malta



www.euro.ecb.int

www.centralbankmalta.com

The euro coins

The coins range from €2 to 1 cent in value and each has a European side and a national side. The European side may show the European Union before its enlargement in May 2004 or a geographical image of Europe. The national side varies from country to country. Despite these differences, you can use any euro coin anywhere in the euro area.

The European sides



The national sides of Malta's coins



The €2 and the €1 coins show the eight-pointed Maltese Cross.

The 50 cent, the 20 cent and the 10 cent coins feature the Emblem of Malta.

The 5 cent, the 2 cent and the 1 cent coins depict the altar at the prehistoric temple of Mnajdra.

More information on the euro

For more information on the euro, please contact the Central Bank of Malta or the European Central Bank.

Għal iżjed informazzjoni dwar l-euro bil-Malti, jekk jogħġbok ikkuntattja l-Bank Ċentrali ta' Malta jew il-Bank Ċentrali Ewropew.

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€1 =
Lm0.4293



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€-day = 1 January 2008
READY FOR THE EURO?



BANK ĊENTRALI TA' MALTA
CENTRAL BANK OF MALTA

EUROSYSTEM

THE SECURITY FEATURES OF THE EURO BANKNOTES

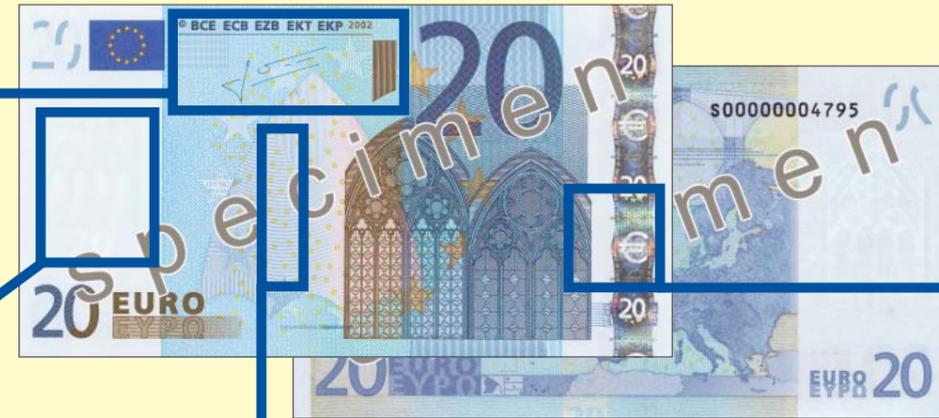
Various security features will help you to recognise a genuine euro banknote. Just check if:

- ✓ The banknote paper is crisp and firm. It feels thicker in some parts.
- ✓ The main motif reappears in both the watermark and the hologram on the €50, €100, €200 and €500 banknotes.
- ✓ The value of the banknote appears in the watermark, the security thread, the hologram and in the colour-changing number.



FEEL OF THE PAPER

It should be crisp and firm. Run your finger across it and you will feel that the ink is thicker in some parts.



HOLOGRAM

Tilt the banknote. It shows the value of the banknote and the euro symbol (€).



WATERMARK

Hold the banknote against the light and a shadow-like image and the value numeral become visible.



SECURITY THREAD

Hold the banknote against the light and a dark line running through the banknote becomes visible.



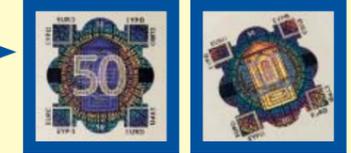
FEEL OF THE PAPER

It should be crisp and firm. Run your finger across it and you will feel that the ink is thicker in some parts.



HOLOGRAM

Tilt the banknote. It shows the value of the banknote and a window or doorway.



WATERMARK

Hold the banknote against the light and a shadow-like image and the value numeral become visible.



SECURITY THREAD

Hold the banknote against the light and a dark line running through the banknote becomes visible.



COLOUR-CHANGING NUMBER

Tilt a €50, €100, €200 or €500 banknote. On the back, the number changes colour from purple to olive green or brown.

