

3 EURO COINS

BLUE-RINGED OCTOPUS



Series	Luminous Marine Life
Face value	€ 3
Date of Issue	9 November 2022
Design	Kathrin Kuntner, Herbert Wähler
Diameter	34 mm
Quality	Uncirculated
Mintage	65,000
Alloy	Coloured metal
Total Weight	16.00 g
Edge	Plain

UV Torch for special colour effect

Recommended
initial issue price: € 14.40 (incl. 20% VAT)

UV TORCH
FOR SPECIAL
COLOUR
EFFECT



The blue-ringed octopus is a brilliant example of how fascinating and colourful the underwater world can be. One of the most intelligent invertebrates, this amazing animal is not only smart but also highly toxic. If it feels threatened its rings illuminate several times per second. This is exactly what it does on the first coin in the *Luminous Marine Life* series. You will be amazed.

Many octopuses can change their skin colour and even their body shape in a flash. Special cells in the skin contain pigments with different colour properties, some of which only reflect light in certain colours when it shines on them. This property is known as 'iridescence', which means that different colours appear on a surface depending on the angle of view. Muscle tension can cause these pigments to contract or expand and so the blue-ringed octopus can change the colour of its skin in certain places.

Another amazing thing about the octopus is that it not only has a central brain in its head, but also has other brains in its eight tentacles. This enables octopuses to always have everything under control and to adapt very quickly to their environment. This is why octopuses are considered the smartest invertebrates.

Although one of the world's most venomous marine animals, the blue-ringed octopus can be encountered on bathing beaches in the Pacific and Indian Oceans and therefore comes into contact with humans on a regular basis. The octopus signals its presence with the rapid flashing of its blue rings and is only dangerous to humans if it bites them, which only occurs if it feels very threatened.

COIN MOTIF

A colour-printed blue-ringed octopus is depicted on the coin's reverse. When the octopus is illuminated with UV light, its blue rings begin to glow and its body changes colour from yellow-brown to green. In the background swim two peacock angelfish. A wide band, reminiscent of an old-fashioned porthole frames the aquatic scene. As on all the coins in the series, to the left and below the octopus to the right, a shell and a starfish can be seen, and there is a notch on the left edge. All 12 of the magical sea creatures in the *Luminous Marine Life* series are shown in silhouette on the coin's obverse. Air bubbles up between them and a tail fin disappears beneath the waves to the right.



Price: € 22.00 (incl. 10% VAT)

Collector, coins not included.

LUMINOUS MARINE LIFE COLLECTOR ALBUM

Co-developed with marine researchers, this Collector album not only stores all 12 coins in the Luminous Marine Life series but is also crammed with fascinating information about the 12 sea creatures that feature on them.

The album explains in detail how they live in and illuminate their aquatic environment and how vital that environment is for our planet as a whole, the threats it faces from humans and shows what can be done about it. It does so in a style that is understandable for youngsters yet entertaining for adults, making it a source of fun for coin collectors of all ages. You will learn, for example, about the ingenious deep-sea angler fish, which uses its very own illuminated fishing rod to lure its unsuspecting prey when hunting.

The album concludes with a quiz where you can have fun testing your newly acquired knowledge of marine biology.



Price: € 7.80 (incl. 20% VAT)

UV LIGHT EFFECT

The series' dedicated UV torch gives off a special type of light that appears to bring the underwater creatures on the coins to life as they change colour and glow vividly. Tiny creatures, which only become visible when you shine the UV torch on them, also appear here and there next to the main characters in the series, adding an element of surprise.

SERIES OVERVIEW



Blue-ringed octopus



Swell shark



Antarctic krill



Deep-sea anglerfish



Stony coral



Mauve stinger

2022



Blue doctorfish



Hawaiian bobtail squid



Yellow stingray



Firefly squid



Dorid nudibranch



Devil scorpionfish