

THE STORIES BEHIND THE UKRAINE WAR STAMPS



Stamp caption: Russian War Ship...DONE! April 14, 2022
Artist name: Boris Groh – appears in small type on soldier's right

Stamps That Inspired the World

Timeline of Ukraine War Stamps

Feb. 24, 2022	Russia attacks Ukraine.
February 24- April 7, 2022	Phase 1 – Russia attacks from the north and attempts to capture capital city, failing and retreating.
April 8- September 5, 2022	Phase 2 – Russia redeploys forces to the south and east to hold separatist regions and water supply for Crimea.
April 12, 2022	“Russian Warship, Go F*** Yourself” stamps issued. Gets worldwide attention.
April 14, 2022	Ukraine sinks Russian flagship <i>Moskva</i> (<i>Moscow</i>).
May 23, 2022	Ukraine issues <i>Moskva</i> “DONE!” stamps celebrating the ship’s sinking.
June 2, 2022	Ukraine issues <i>Dream</i> airplane stamp.
July 28, 2022	Ukraine issues Tank and Tractor stamps “Good Evening, We Are From Ukraine.”
August 24, 2022	Ukraine issues souvenir sheet for 31st year of independence honoring the military: “Free. Unbreakable. Invincible.”
August 30, 2022	Ukraine issues “Patron the Dog” stamps.
Sept. 6, 2022	Phase 3 – Ukrainian counteroffensives
Sept. 20, 2022	Ukraine issues “Welcome to Hell” postal envelope.
October 8, 2022	Ukraine blows up Kerch Bridge, announces “Crimea Bridge for an Encore” stamp the same day.
Oct. 14, 2022	Ukraine issues “Glory to the Armed Forces of Ukraine!” stamp sheet.
Dec. 6, 2022	Ukraine issues “Weapons of Victory” sheet.
Dec. 9, 2022	Ukraine issues “Kherson is Ukraine!” stamp and sheet.
Dec. 19, 2022	Ukraine issues final stamp of 2022: “Victorious New Year.”
Feb. 15, 2022	Ukraine issues “Warriors of Light, Warriors of Goodness” sheet.
Feb. 24, 2023	Ukraine issues “FCK PTN” stamp with artwork by Banksy.

A Message from Don...

Dear Collector,

In 2022 Ukraine harnessed the power of the postage stamp in its war with Russia. Ukraine got worldwide attention and raised money to fight with its edgy stamps.

I've created this booklet to share the living history of Ukraine as illustrated on its recent postage stamps. And to highlight Ukraine's struggle for democracy and self-determination. The map shows where Ukraine is located in relation to Russia, which recently illegally "annexed" about 15% of the country. One of the ways Ukraine is shining the spotlight on that aggression, and showing how its military is fighting back, is through postage stamps.



*Don Sundman
President
Mystic Stamp Company*



I'm happy to say Mystic helped Ukraine during such desperate times by buying thousands of dollars' worth of these stamps directly from Ukrainian citizens.

You'll see Ukraine's stamps are very different from others issued during wartime. They are playful and taunting of the enemy. I'm impressed by how clever and inspiring Ukraine is – using humor to show its courage and spirit despite the losses it sustains every day of this tragic war. Stamps have been used as propaganda in many wars, but Ukraine's stamps are propaganda at its finest and most appealing.

*Ukraine's president Volodymyr Zelensky poses with the original "Russian warship, go f*** yourself" stamps.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Don Sundman".

Donald Sundman

P.S. I'm inspired by quotes like this from Ukraine's phenomenal leader, Volodymyr Zelensky:

"Things like this are foremost symbols that help us believe in our victory. That we will definitely win this war and the occupier will go to the bottom. People's interest in these stamps proves that. I am convinced that we will have many more such symbols of victory."



“Russian Warship, Go F Yourself”*** **First Ukraine Stamps Issued After Invasion** **Captures Worldwide Headlines**

Issue Date: April 12th, 2022

What better way to announce to a world expecting a quick occupation of Ukraine by Russia than with postage stamps!

Just days after the February 24, 2022, invasion, Ukraine issued the stamps that showed a doubting world Ukraine wouldn't be steamrolled by the Russian war machine. President Zelensky knew the stamps would focus attention on Ukraine, gaining its sympathy and support. At the same time, they would lift morale and inspire his people to resist with everything they had. The stamps did all that and more.

On the first day of the invasion, the Russian warship *Moskva* (*Moscow*) demanded the surrender of Ukrainian troops on Ukraine's Snake Island. Roman Hrybor, a marine defending the border, responded for his fellow guards: "Russian warship, go f*** yourself!"

The courage of the Snake Island soldiers has inspired Ukraine's citizens and millions across the globe. Their refusal to surrender has become a symbol of the country's resistance. It also inspired the brilliant idea of a postage stamp design contest centered around the now-famous phrase. The winner was 27-year-old Ukrainian artist Boris Groh. His interpretation of the soldiers'

**Trident – Ukraine’s coat of arms for over 1000 years; also found on stamps. Four colors used to line up printing plates.*

**Sound waves representing radio transmission from soldier to Russian warship.*



**“Glory to Ukraine,” in Ukrainian and English; as of 2018, official salute and battle cry of Ukraine’s armed forces. Swath of yellow and blue shows the colors of Ukraine’s flag.*

**Symbol and name, in Ukrainian, of Ukraine’s State Postal Service – Ukrposhta.*

refusal to surrender was the image of a lone soldier standing on the shore, giving the finger to the *Moskva*.

The “F” stamp, issued for domestic mail, and the “W” stamp for international mail, went on sale April 12th. Two days later, Ukraine sunk the *Moskva*. Capturing worldwide media attention, the Snake Island stamps sold out quickly and raised \$135,000 for Ukraine’s army. Ukrainian citizens waited in long lines for many hours to get the stamps. They have become testaments of the courage and strength of Ukrainians, both soldier and citizen. Following all the positive press focused on the stamps, Russia cyber-attacked, taking down the Ukraine Post website for a week. That shows how important the stamps are and how much Russia hated them.

Why is Snake Island important? The rocky island (less than a square mile in area) is strategically located in the Black Sea. Whoever controls it controls the air and sea near the port of Odesa, departure point of vital worldwide grain shipments. And Snake Island is located 28 miles from NATO member Romania.

The soldiers who refused to surrender that day were captured, but later released in a prisoner exchange on March 24th, 2022. Although Snake Island was occupied by Russia on the first day of the war, it was retaken by Ukrainian forces on July 4th. Roman Hrybor was awarded a medal for bravery by the Ukrainian government and hailed as a “Hero of Ukraine.”

*Both postage stamps say “RUSSIAN WAR SHIP – DONE” in Ukrainian at the bottom, along with the date of the sinking – April 4, 2022.

*Each stamp bears the trident symbol. One of three official symbols of Ukraine; it was banned under Soviet rule.



*Labels' facsimile cancellations say “DONE” in English with date and ship's name Moskva (Moscow) in Ukrainian.

*F stamp has artist's name – Boris Groh – in very small type close to the right side of soldier's body.

Ukraine Sinks Russian Flagship

Issues new F and W stamps

Attached labels announce: Moskva DONE

Issue Date: May 23rd, 2022

What a feather in Ukraine's cap to have destroyed the most important warship of Russia's Black Sea fleet! To celebrate this amazing accomplishment, Ukraine issued another set of “F” (domestic) and “W” (international) stamps. This time, the flagship is missing from the coastal waters of Snake Island. Both stamps are imprinted with the lone soldier, his flippant gesture to the *Moskva* crew's demand for surrender, and the date the ship was sunk.

To top it off, the stamps were issued attached (se-tenant) with a non-denominated label. The label shows the former ship with a clever facsimile postmark as part of the design, declaring “*Moskva* DONE,” and bearing the April 24th, 2022, “cancellation” date. Both stamp and label show the same solitary soldier plus his now famous and familiar gesture of disgust directed towards the menacing Russian ship.

Once again, both the event, and the stamps quickly issued to celebrate it, gave a major boost to Ukrainian morale. They raised more funds to support both Ukraine's troops and citizens. And like the first stamps, the positive press kept Ukraine in the news, and in people's thoughts around the world.



Little Girl's Dream of Ukraine... Becomes Postal Memorial to Famous *Dream Plane* (*And an Important Reminder*)

Issue Date: June 28th, 2022

As the effort to repel the Russian invaders continued, Ukraine also continued using stamps to promote its cause around the world. This time it was with a postage stamp originally planned to celebrate Ukraine's 30th anniversary of independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. On it is an image of the plane drawn by Sofia Kravchuk in answer to the "Dream" contest question: "What is Ukraine for me?"

The world's largest transport plane was the pride and joy of Ukraine



Mriya was scheduled for evacuation on the same day Russia invaded. President Zelenskyy plans to complete an unfinished Mriya as a tribute to Ukrainian pilots killed in the war.

when young Sofia drew her entry. Her design was chosen, however the stamp was delayed. But in late February 2022, the one-of-a-kind “dream plane” was destroyed during a fierce Russian aerial bombardment at Antonov airport.

Now Ukraine has cleverly repurposed the stamp to memorialize the Antonov 225 *Mriya* plane. The *Dream* plane was designed and built in Ukraine. The stamp reminds Ukrainians what they’re capable of and to never give up their dream of freedom. And that’s why it’s called the “Dream Stamp.”

Some Facts about the *Dream* Plane’s stamp design:

- Wing of upper plane bears its name – An (for Antonov) 225 and *Mriya* (*Dream* in Ukrainian)
- Bird wing close to little girl in illustration shows the artist’s name in tiny type: Sofia Kravchuk
- “Ukrainian Dream” appears on right-hand edge of stamps in both Ukrainian and English.
- Ukraine’s coat of arms – the trident – was made part of the Ukrainian constitution in 1996. It appears on left-hand side.
- First time “U” denomination was used on a Ukrainian stamp. Pays for domestic postage on letters weighing up to 50 grams.



**The trident, Ukraine's coat of arms appears on the left side of both stamps. It is one of the nation's three official symbols.*

**The blue and yellow flag of Ukraine flies proudly from the tractor which tows a ruined Russian tank.*

**The Ukrainian phrase on the stamp means: "Good evening, we are from Ukraine."*

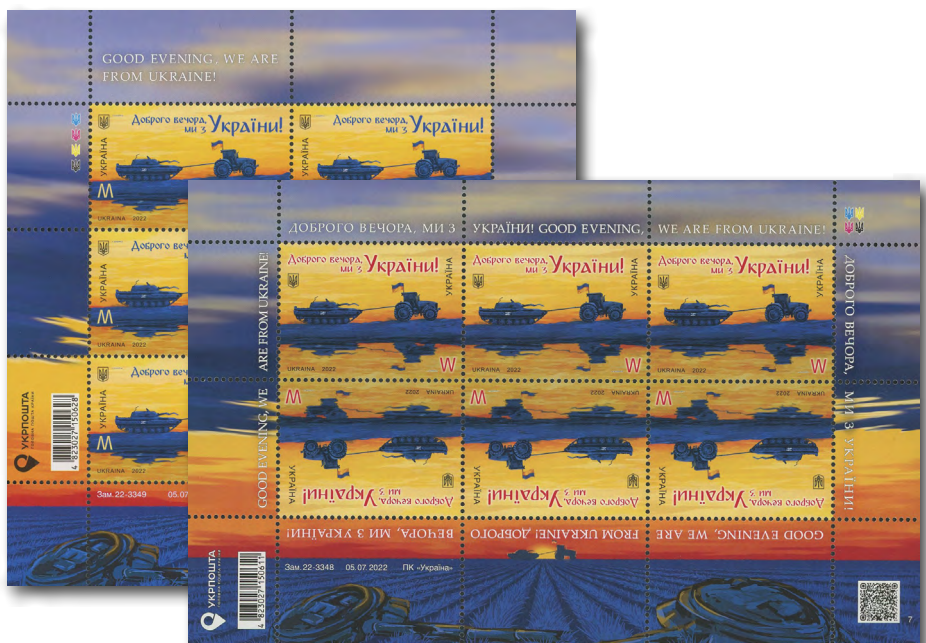
"Good evening, we are from Ukraine." **Farmers of Ukraine take action and it lands on postage stamps!**

Issue Date: July 28th, 2022

Continuing its brilliant use of postage stamps to inspire Ukrainians to keep working for victory against Russia, Ukraine held a third design contest. This image of a tractor pulling a Russian tank along a rural road won the popular vote of over 800,000 Ukrainians. The artist was graphic designer and art teacher Anatasia Bondarets.

The back story on the image is that of Ukrainian farmers taking the initiative to haul away damaged Russian tanks left by the enemy. The added benefit to clearing the debris of war is these ambitious farmers are allowed by their government to sell the tanks for scrap and don't have to pay tax.

The tractor stamps can be collected as singles and as sheets of 6. On



**Marginal markings on both sheets of six stamps include four colored tridents indicating the four-color process used to print the stamp.*

**Also the symbol and name of Ukrposhta, the state postal service of Ukraine.*

**The phrase “Good evening, we are from Ukraine” appears in Ukrainian and English on all sides of the horizontal tête bêche sheet.*

**The illustration in the foreground shows the remnants of another ruined piece of equipment.*

**Lower left shows symbol and name of Ukrposhta, Ukraine’s state postal service.*

all stamps “Good evening, we are from Ukraine” appears in Ukrainian. But the selvage of both sheets also shows the phrase in English. According to Ukrainian postal authorities, the phrase came from a popular song that came out after the war started (“Good Evening, Where Are You From?”). The phrase has become a kind of unofficial greeting among military, political, and journalist circles. [To hear the song, click here.](#)

Of even more interest to us stamp collectors is that the “W” sheet has the top row of stamps attached in the opposite direction from the bottom row. This format is called *tête bêche*, French for “head to tail.” So the pairs are joined together, inverted in relation to one another. Within all the stamps, the tractor and tank images are reflected due to the water in the foreground of the artwork.

Like the soldier’s middle finger, the tractor has become a symbol of resistance against the Russian invasion. These stamps are not just inspiring, they are clever and interesting. They raise money to help support Ukraine’s defense, while giving its citizens something to smile about. And they’re one huge contributor to keeping Ukraine’s cause alive around the world.



At left:

- *Patron's name in Ukrainian
- *Universal symbol for landmines

Bottom:

- *Symbol of Ukrposhta, Ukraine's State Postal Service

Top left:

- *"Dog Patron" in Ukrainian and English

Top right:

- *Cross symbol of Armed Forces of Ukraine
- *DCHC = State Emergency Service (of Ukraine)

Patron, the Mine-Sniffing Dog Accepts Ukrainian Order of Courage Celebrated on Eight Semipostal Stamps

Issue Date: July 28th, 2022

This sheet of eight self-adhesive stamps devoted to the tiny hero of the State Emergency Services of Ukraine is a favorite of mine. His name is Patron, meaning "ammo" in Ukrainian. He and his owner-trainer have received the Ukrainian Order of Courage for Patron's work in detecting over 200 unexploded Russian landmines and bombs. President Macron of

Patron, dog mascot of the State of Emergency Service of Ukraine, March 2022. Image courtesy of State Emergency Service of Ukraine.



Patron relieves himself on a piece of Russian artillery marked with a “Z”.

Patron growls at Russian nesting doll containing a grenade

France attended the ceremony when Ukrainian President Zelensky made the presentation.

The face value of each semipostal, or charity stamp, shows that a surcharge has been added. The extra fee will go toward the purchase of a minesweeping vehicle and to various animal shelters across Ukraine.

Wearing his miniature bulletproof vest, the two-year-old Jack Russell Terrier goes about the serious business of sniffing out unexploded devices. That doesn't keep him from being a sentimental and humorous subject on this stamp sheet. The stamps show him at work, mixing the serious nature of that work with some playful situations. His Ukrainian name is on the lower left corner above the international symbol for landmines.

Patron has become a social media war hero and had over 410,000 followers on Instagram as of May 2023. It's the clever Patron stamps that brought his story to millions of people all over the world, helping him inspire us with his spirit and humor. Stamps have played a major part in getting Ukraine's story out to its many friends and potential allies.

[To see a video of Patron in action, click here.](#)



**Issued for Ukraine's 31st Independence Day, August 24th, 2022*

**"Free, Unbreakable, Invincible" appear in English and Ukrainian on the sheet.*

**Under the pillars of the Mariupol theatre, the Russian word for "children" just left of the stamp.*

**Stamp is printed in shades of blue and yellow to recall the colors of the Ukrainian flag.*

**Actual size: 110 mm x 57 mm*



Ukraine Free. Unbreakable. Invincible... **Souvenir Sheet is a Capsule of the War**

Issue Date: August 24th, 2022

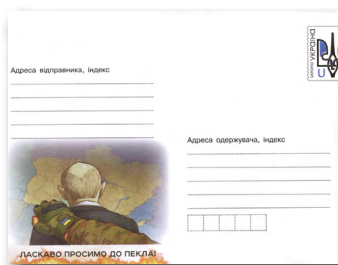
The title of this souvenir sheet says it all, just like the illustrations on it. Soldier, citizen, and destruction. Everyone carrying the burdens of the unprovoked war in Ukraine.

As Igor Smelyansky, head of Ukrposhta, Ukraine's State Postal Service, has said, "The souvenir sheet is a reminder for the whole world of how expensive freedom is." And it reminds us of the important role postage stamps have played throughout the war. Artist Anton Khrupin has captured the high cost of freedom through simple but touching sketches in the graphic arts style. There are six, one for each of the first six months of the war.



Each one is tied to an event, such as the bombing of the Mariupol theatre, where the Russian word for “children” appears outside the door, in the hope the Russians would spare it. The senseless loss of life and property in this unprovoked war is highlighted with images of an empty baby carriage, a demolished home, abandoned suitcases, and more.

At the same time, the artist gives the people of Ukraine hope with the image of a soldier, ready to defend his country’s independence regardless of the cost. The sheet was issued on the 31st anniversary of independence from the Soviet Union, and exactly six months from the start of the invasion. Under attack from the enemy, the spirit of Ukraine remains, as the title of the stamp says: Free. Unbreakable. Invincible.



Welcome to Hell...

Issue Date: September 20, 2022

The inspiration for this new stamped envelope comes from the remarks of a Ukrainian general concerning Russian president Vladimir Putin: “If Putin invades, we will welcome him to hell.” Ukrposhta was ready and willing to make that statement recognized around the world when it issued its first wartime stamped envelope.

As we’re all aware by now, Ukraine is using postage stamps to their full potential in keeping morale up, as well as raising money for the armed forces and civilian needs. And don’t forget the impact these stamps have had in keeping the world’s attention focused on Ukraine in its time of desperate need. Ukrposhta’s general director Igor Smelyansky said “Thanks to the Ukrainian army such events are happening that we cannot help but document them in the way Ukrposhta is able to do.” What a tribute to the importance of stamps!

The envelope’s cachet features the familiar image of the back of Putin’s head. Who could mistake that hairline, those ears? On his shoulder rests the mighty hand of a Ukrainian defender pushing the president forward to meet his destiny. The work of artist Roman Chaly was chosen by over 200,000 Ukrainians who voted for it in a stamp design contest.

The new trident stamp with its “U” designation is imprinted on the envelope, to pay postage within Ukraine on letters weighing up to 50 grams. The trident has been the coat of arms of Ukraine for over 1,000 years. It was even officially enshrined in the Ukrainian Constitution in 1996. It appears on Ukrainian postage stamps as well as in many other places as a symbol of Ukraine. The familiar blue and yellow of the Ukrainian flag appear on the cachet, along with the yellow and orange flames of hell. “Welcome to hell” in the Ukrainian Cyrillic alphabet needs no further explanation! 🍆



Stamps picture: Airborne assault troops, naval forces, ground forces, territorial defense forces, forces of special operations, and air force of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

Glory to the Armed Forces of Ukraine!

Issue Date: October 14, 2022

Ukraine is rightfully proud of its military forces during this time of fighting a vicious enemy who has invaded their country. The Semipostal stamps on this sheet of six show the various branches of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, created by artist Anton Khrupin. The artist also created the Free. Unbreakable. Invincible. souvenir sheet. Each stamp pays the postal rate for non-priority letters up to 50 grams mailed within Ukraine and the surcharge will go to support the troops. The sheet is just one more example of stamps having a positive impact on Ukraine in so many ways.

Director Igor Smelyansky of the Ukrainian State Postal Service tells us there will be more stamps dedicated to other units of the Armed Forces in the future.

Here are some details about the sheet:

- The cross in the upper lefthand corner (resembling a Maltese cross) is the official emblem of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, adopted in 2009.
- Next to the cross is the title of the sheet in Ukrainian, meaning “Glory to the Armed Forces of Ukraine!” Center of cross shows the Trident, the coat-of-arms of Ukraine. Trident also appears on each stamp.
- The row of colored tridents in the upper left corner indicates the printing plates used to create this full-color sheet.
- The bottom righthand inscription refers to “Special Forces of Ukraine.”



Stamp shows artist's interpretation of damage to Crimea Bridge, comparing it to the sinking of the Titanic. Includes many sly references to the movie and to Ukraine's Russian invaders.

“Crimean Bridge for an Encore”

Issue Date: Second half of November 2022

Russian President Vladimir Putin was presented with a belated birthday present for his 70th birthday – the bombing of prominent Russian landmark Crimea Bridge just one day later. Ukrposhta, Ukraine's State Postal Service, taunted the president by revealing the planned issue of stamps celebrating the attack within hours after it occurred on October 8th, 2022. Obviously, the attack on the only bridge linking Russia and the Crimean peninsula was no surprise to the Ukrainians!

The sheet of seven stamps and two labels was created by Ukrainian artist Yuri Shapoval in the graphic arts style. Shapoval cleverly compared the myth of the “unsinkable” *Titanic* ocean liner with the Russian-created myth of the bridge as a symbol of unbreakable ties between Crimea and Russia. As the *Titanic* myth was proven wrong, so has that of the bridge. The artist recreated an iconic scene from the movie *Titanic* to do it, as you see in the illustration of Jack and Rose on the bow of the ship.

**Changed name of Crimean bridge from Russian to Ukrainian. Phrase next to right of box means "For an Encore."*

** Turkish Bayraktar drone can carry laser-guided bombs.*

**Cigarette is a taunt to Russian soldiers smoking in dangerous places, causing fires and explosions.*

**Possible reference to Putin's nickname "Poot"*



**Car loaded with looted items, including a washing machine, falls into the water.*

**Two labels show items looted by Russian soldiers, and broken road sign for the Crimean bridge.*

Head of Ukrposhta, Igor Smelyansky, in announcing the upcoming stamp issue, revealed it would show the Crimea Bridge “or more precisely, what remains of it.” Also, the stamp’s purpose: “to celebrate the ‘Titanic’ efforts of our people and our armed forces.” In other words – Crimea Bridge – Done – like the sinking of the Russian warship *Moskva* in April. Ukraine’s secretary of National Security and Defense Council even posted a video of the bridge in flames along with one showing Marilyn Monroe singing “Happy Birthday, Mr. President” to JFK. [Click here to see for yourself.](#)

The “M” on each non-denominated stamp stands for “Mist,” the Ukrainian word for bridge. The stamp sheet is loaded with symbols of the Russian invasion pulled from news stories about the war and the Russian occupation of Crimea and other regions.



“Weapons of Victory” Ukraine War Stamps

Issue Date: December 6th, 2022

These stamps picture Ukrainian and foreign weapons being used in the struggle against the Russian invasion. It shows Ukraine’s Vilkha (a heavy multi-rocket launcher), its R-360 Neptune (anti-ship cruise missile) and Stugna-P (anti-tank missile). Also, the Turkish Bayraktar TB2 (medium-altitude long-range combat drone), American FGM-148 Javelin (anti-tank missile system), and American M142 HIMARS (light multi-rocket launcher).

Regarding the release of the stamp sheet, Ukrposhta (Ukraine’s postal service) said “In today’s reality, when Russia is waging a full-scale war against Ukraine, it is more important than ever to show respect and support to the military, who tirelessly defend the borders and repel enemy attacks. That is why Ukrposhta announces the release of new postage stamps – Weapons of Victory – to thank the Armed Forces of Ukraine for their resilience, strength, and courage.” A portion of the money earned from the sale of these stamps was also donated to Ukraine’s Armed Forces.

Referring to the Weapons of Victory stamps, Igor Smelyansky, head of Ukrposhta, said “...stamps today are a symbol of the invincibility of the Ukrainian spirit...”

This stamp sheet was issued on December 6th, the Day of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. First Day of Issue ceremony was held in Kiev. It was designed by graphic artists and brothers Sergiy and Oleksandr Haruky.



“Kherson is Ukraine!”

Issue Date: December 9th, 2022

This Ukraine war stamp was released to celebrate Ukraine’s liberation of Kherson from Russian occupation. The stamp design pictures a slice of watermelon with images of rallies, burning buildings, and torture that occurred while Russian troops attempted to hold the city.

The watermelon seeds, in the shape of missiles, are meant to represent the countless bombs Russia dropped on Kherson. A watermelon was chosen to represent the city because the region is famous for growing the fruit.

The sheet of six shows the greenery of a watermelon patch at the bottom of the pane of six stamps as well as a map of Ukraine with the name of Kherson in bold letters. Each stamp bears the well-known trident symbol which is the coat of arms of Ukraine. The logo of Ukrposhta, Ukraine’s postal service, also appears.

According to Igor Smelyansky, CEO of Ukrposhta:

“This is the first postage stamp dedicated to the hero city, after which other heroic cities will definitely appear. And although the liberation of Kherson has not yet been officially announced, according to the good old tradition, which began with the ship, sometimes stamps are issued a few days before the event, because Ukrposhta knows for sure that our military are the best, and de-occupation is only a matter of time. This year we were not able to enjoy Kherson watermelons, but postal philately cannot leave Ukrainians without one of the symbols of Kherson region, so watermelon slices with additional artistic plots can be seen on the new postage stamp.”

Captured by Russian troops on March 2nd 2022, Kherson, was re-taken by Ukrainian forces on November 11th.



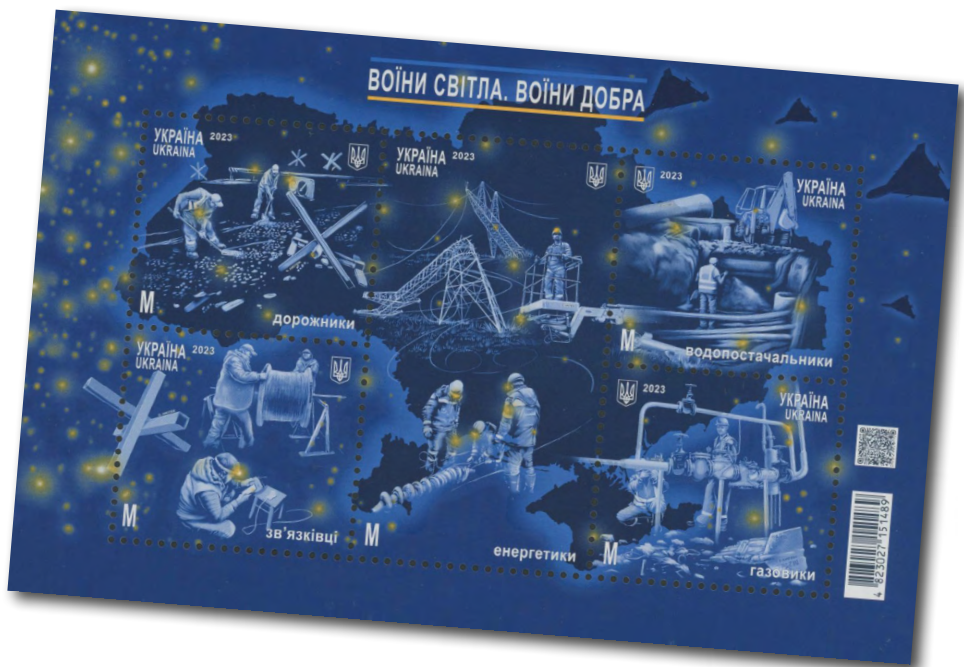
Final Ukraine War Stamp of 2022 “Victorious New Year”

Issue Date: December 19th, 2022

This holiday stamp design was chosen in another public contest by the people of Ukraine. The winner by popular vote was an 11th grader named Valeria Mikhailova, one of many people forced to flee the country after the war with Russia began. The stamp is titled “Victorious New Year” and pictures an image of a woman sitting by a Christmas tree on the left side and a soldier holding his gun on the right. If you look closely, you’ll see the soldier holding his sweetheart’s hand. You’ll also see a letter on the floor next to her (perhaps from her soldier beau) and glowing candlelight reflected in the window, mirroring the flames in the background on the soldier’s side of the stamp.

This stamp is a reminder of the many families who didn’t get to spend the holidays together in 2022 because of the war. CEO of Ukrposhta (Ukraine’s postal service), Igor Smelyansky, said of the stamp “I really want this Christmas and New Year stamp to become to you another symbol of invincibility and a reminder that we will stand against all odds... It will also bring hope, because in 2023 we will have a much more historic date – the day when we will win.”

The Victorious New Year stamp was issued on December 19th, 2022, and was the final Ukraine war stamp of the year. At the time of its issue, Mr. Smelyansky expressed his hope this would be the only New Year’s stamp issued during the war... and that next year’s stamp would be a traditional one reflecting a peaceful New Year.



“Warriors of Light, Warriors of Goodness” Stamp Sheet

Issue Date: February 15th, 2023

This sheet includes five stamps honoring the men and women who work tirelessly to repair Ukraine’s critical infrastructure after it has been damaged or destroyed by Russian attacks. This includes such necessary services as heat, electricity, water, and more. Each stamp pictures a detailed image of people at work, even in the darkness and cold of a Ukrainian night. The intense blue background and small dots of yellow light represent the colors of the Ukrainian flag.

The stamp sheet conveys the thankfulness of the people of Ukraine for the heroic efforts of these “Warriors of Light,” who work around the clock repairing gas lines, power plants, and roads.

The selvaге and background of the stamps picture a map of Ukraine with silhouettes of enemy aircraft flying above, ready to inflict more damage on the people of Ukraine.



“FCK PTN” Ukraine War Stamp Shows Putin Losing at Judo

Issue Date: February 24th, 2023

This provocative stamp was issued on the one-year anniversary of the all-out invasion by Russia of the sovereign nation of Ukraine.

The stamp shows a mural created by famous British artist Banksy. Banksy painted the mural on a Ukrainian building early in the war as part of his graffiti series related to the struggle. His goal was to focus the world’s attention on events in Ukraine. The design on this stamp pictures Putin being flipped by a small boy in a judo match. The stamp’s official title is “FCK PTN” and is meant to rally the Ukrainian people.

“We believe that the Ukrainian postage stamp “FCK PTN!” will also become prophetic. And in 2023, Ukraine, which is smaller in terms of territory but hundreds of times more motivated, will finally “pin Russia to the mat.” Igor Smelyanskyi, Director General of Ukrposhta.

The First Day of Issue cancellation took place in the city of Kiev. The stamp is a Semipostal issue. A portion of the money from its sale will go to charitable causes, especially schools and other educational organizations destroyed and disrupted by Russian bombs.

Ukrainian Postal Workers Deliver... Lots more than just the mail!

Rural postal workers are yet another kind of hero in the rural war-torn regions of southern Ukraine. They bring not only packages and letters, but food, cash, and connection to those living in isolated communities near the front lines of Kherson and other areas claimed by Russia. Their fleet of white and yellow Ukrposhta vans announce the arrival of badly needed pension money and coveted newspapers to small post offices scattered across the region.

Ukrposhta is Ukraine's State Postal Service. Despite the threat of frequent shelling, the service continues to operate small post offices in rural areas. These post offices provide help and hope to Ukraine's citizens. In the early days of the war, Ukrposhta, and private competitor Nova Poshta, helped evacuees by shipping 502 tons of their belongings to neighboring Poland.



Since the March 2022 Russian invasion, Ukrposhta has had its hands full. In both unoccupied Ukraine and areas to the south which Russia has recently annexed, including the Kherson region, Ukrainians turned to their post office as a kind of community center where they can buy food, pay bills, and receive their monthly stipend. There, besides the more tangible benefits, the little post offices provide a sense of normalcy amidst the chaos of their war-torn country.

Postal workers and drivers who deliver the mail to these post offices near the front lines of the war are in constant danger from mortar attacks and land-mined roads. The common goal is getting in and out as quickly as possible. Often these areas lack the very basic structures needed to operate a society, such as banks, power sources, and decent roads. Post offices, the courageous folks who continue to man them, and the drivers who risk life and limb to deliver, are a lifeline to those living miles from a bank or grocery store, without cars or public transportation.





How to get these stamps...

If you'd like to own any of the important Ukraine stamps you've seen in this downloadable booklet, see below. There are several ways you may contact us to place your order or ask a question of a friendly Customer Service Representative. [Or click right here to find all the Ukraine stamps on our website.](#)

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ЛАСКАВО ПРОСИМО ДО ПЕКЛА!

"WELCOME TO HELL"