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## Extreme Philately Top 2025 Releases

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### INTRODUCTION

We list the top 10 (and three runners-up) for the most unusual stamps of 2025. See our listings for 2023 (Das and Gee, 2024) and for 2024 (Das and Gee, 2025).

As before, our criteria are innovation as well as aesthetics. These include a stamp sheetlet with embedded gemstones, a 3D-printed stamp, stamps that smell of roses, a stamp sheetlet embossed with Braille alphabets or affixed with cloth fibre, a laser-cut stamp, in addition to stamps printed with silver or 22-carat gold foil, embroidered on cloth, printed on silk paper, foil with glitter, or wood.

Congratulations are due to all postal agencies in the list for these ‘extreme’ issues!

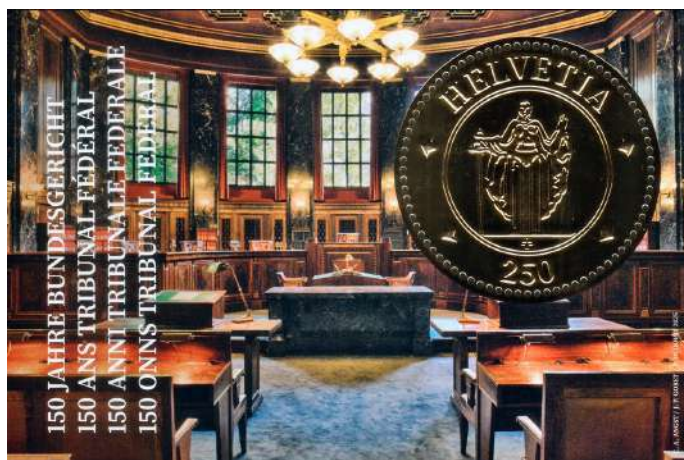
### REFERENCES

DAS, I. AND G.V.A. GEE. 2024. Extreme philately. Top 2023 releases. *Journal of the Philatelic Society of Kuching, Sarawak* 16(2):35–43.

DAS, I. AND G.V.A. GEE. 2025. Extreme philately. Top 2024 releases. *Journal of the Philatelic Society of Kuching, Sarawak* 17(1):38–52.

**10<sup>th</sup> Position:**

**Switzerland: Gold Foil Stamp**



**Federal Supreme Court**

Switzerland commemorated the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Federal Supreme Court via the issuance, on 6 March 2025, of a sheetlet with a large gold foil. It lacks watermark and was designed by C. A. Angst, J. P. Gobet, and P. Dudouit. Engraving is by Cartor Security Printing, France. Perforation is 13¼.

**9<sup>th</sup> Position:**

**Russia: Braille Stamp**



**Centenary of Association of Blind People**

To commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the All-Russian Society of the Blind, Russian Post, on 8 July 2025, released a miniature sheet of face value Rubles 2 on the theme. The Braille-embossed text at the bottom reads "Equal Rights and Equal Opportunities".

The sheetlet lack a watermark and was designed by Andrew Povarihin. It has a perforation of 11¼.

**8<sup>th</sup> Position:**

**Singapore: Laser-cut Stamp**



**Chinese Lunar New Year**

On 10 January 2025, Singapore Post issued for the Chinese Lunar New Year of the Snake, a laser-cut Collector Sheet, containing a stamp of SG\$10 value. Contained in the folder were Singapore Post Ang Pow (red) packets.

The sheetlack lacks a watermark and was designed by Lim An-Ling, and engraved by Brebner Print. Perforation is 14½.

7<sup>th</sup> Position:

**Hong Kong: Gold and Silk Stamp**



**Chinese Lunar New Year**

To commemorate the Chinese New Year and the Year of the Snake, on 5 January 2025, Hong Kong Post issued a miniature sheet comprising two stamps each of face value HK\$50. It lacks a watermark, and was designed by Wong Chung-hong. Perforation is 13¼. The stamps are hot-stamped with 22-carat gold foil.

Shown here is the sheetlet (top) and certificate of authenticity by Cartor Security Printers, France.

**6<sup>th</sup> Position:**

**Åland, Armenia, Austria, Barbados, Cyprus, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Switzerland: Embroidered Stamps**



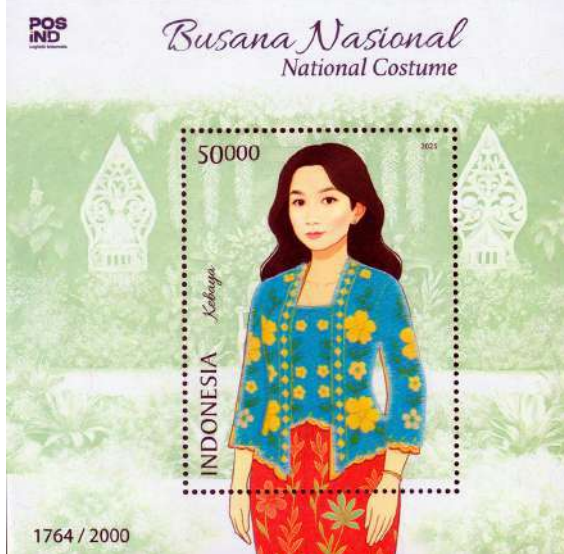
**Dove of Peace. United for Peace – One Stitch at a Time.**

Ten postal authorities from Europe and America, in addition to the three United Nations Postal Agencies (in New York, Vienna and Geneva) and the Universal Postal Union launched a joint issue on 19 September 2025. Entitled “Dove of Peace”, its goal was to strengthen awareness of peace and solidarity. Dimensions are 55 x 42 mm, and the stamp value corresponds to the currency of the respective issuing nation (e.g., Faroe Islands, 50 DKK; Liechtenstein, CHF 5.80; Luxembourg, €5.50). They were produced by the Austrian embroidery firm, Hämmerle & Vogel GmbH & Co KG. The UPU release was at the Koreapex 2025 Stamp Exhibition, but had no postal value indicated.

Shown here are representative stamps from Luxembourg (left) and Switzerland (right) from our collection.

5<sup>th</sup> Position:

Indonesia: Fabric-affixed Stamps



National Costumes

On 21 October 2025, Indonesia Post issued four unusual miniature sheetlets in a folder to celebrate traditional dresses of the country's women of Malay and Chinese heritages, and comprising Baju Kurung, Kebaya, and Songket. Referred to as Busana, each shows a different style, the fabric itself affixed on the respective stamp sheetlet. Each sheetlet shows a Rupiah 50,000 value.

4<sup>th</sup> Position:

South Korea: Wooden Stamps



Dancheong

At the Phila Korea 2025 International Stamp Exhibition, Seoul (17–21 September 2025), Korea Post issued a wooden miniature sheet with three stamps, featuring the Dancheong (traditional Korean decorative painting of patterns on wooden buildings). Each of the stamps is of 1,800 Won value, and the sheetlet has a large printed selvage on top.

The issue was designed by Ryu Ji-hyeong and engraved by Brebner Print.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Position:**

**Luxembourg: Embroidered Stamp**

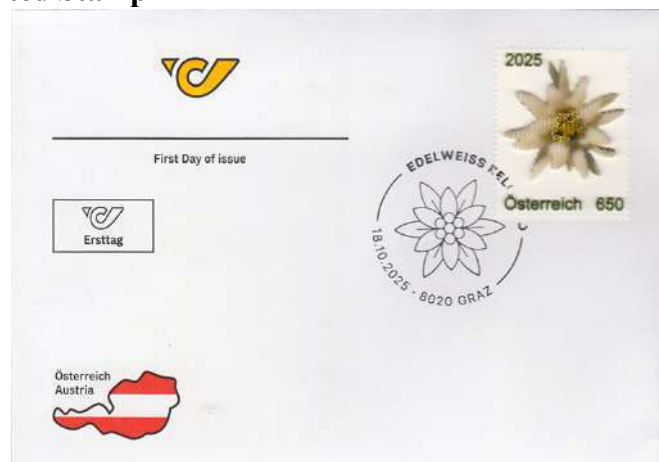


**Accession to Throne of  
Grand Duke Henri**

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of accession to the throne by HRH Grand Duke Henri, POST Luxembourg on 6 May 2025 issued an embroidered stamp of face value €5.50. It was produced by the Austrian company, Hämmerle & Vogel GmbH.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Position:**

**Austria: 3D printed Stamp**



**Edelweiss Reloaded**

The Edelweiss (*Leontopodium nivale*) is mountain flower of the Asteraceae (the daisy / sunflower family). It grows in the Alps, and symbolizes purity and love. On 18 December 2025, Austrian Post (Österreichische Post Aktiengesellschaft) issued Edelweiss Reloaded, a single stamp designed and printed by Hämmerle & Vogel GmbH & Co KG, using 3D printing. Of face value €6.50, it measures 33 x 42.1 mm. Philatelists will remember that two decades back, Austria Post had issued the country's first embroidered stamp, of a white Edelweiss.

The 3D image of Edelweiss Reloaded was generated with liquid photopolymer applied in microscopic droplets through ultra-fine nozzles onto stamp sheets, each layer cured with UV light before addition of the next.

1<sup>st</sup> Position:

Oman: Gemstone-embedded Stamps



Special Miniature Sheet



First Day Cover



Regular Miniature Sheet



Regular stamp issue

Omani Gemstones

On 30 October 2025, Oman Post released a series entitled "Gemstones of Oman" to bring to notice the geology of the Sultanate. It featured six stamps in a sheetlet as well as miniature sheet format. Each of the stamps are of face value 50 Omani Baisa. The miniature sheet had stamps valued at 500 Omani Rial. A special sheetlet (top) was part of the release, and gets our vote, featuring embedded stones, including black agate, quartz, amethyst, green agate, white agate and dendritic agate. A total of a thousand sheetlets were issued.

The design of the series is by Joh. Enschedé (Koninklijke Joh. Enschedé), of the Netherlands.

### Top Three Runners-up

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Runner-Up: Indonesia: Foil and Glitter Stamps



#### Thailand 2025 International Philatelic Exhibition

On the occasion of Thailand 2025 International Philatelic Exhibition (8–12 August 2025), Indonesia Post issued four self-adhesive stamp sheetlets. Listed here is one with holographic foil and with glitter spot effect, depicting the temple at Borobudur and Thai dancers.

Also issued were sheetlets printed on silk fabric, with and without perforations.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up:  
Malaysia: Aromatic Stamps**



**Roses Series 3**

Pos Malaysia's third release of rose-themed stamps was on 30 July 2025. It featured Malaysian-grown rose varieties, all stamps being with floral fragrance. The series included a 90 sen and a Ringgit Malaysia (RM) 1 stamp (se-tenant sheets of 10 of each rose variety, with decorated top selvages), as well as a RM5 miniature sheet.

Stamps lack watermark and perforation is 14. They were printed on 105 gm stamp paper, perforated but ungummed, by Henan Post Printing Factory, China.

**1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up:  
Hong Kong: Laser-cut Stamps**



**Chinese Lunar New Year**

On 5 January 2025, Hong Kong Post issued, for its Annual Chinese Lunar New Year release, a miniature sheet of HK\$50 face value. The stamp with a laser-cut design. As with other items from the release, this was designed by Wong Chun-hong and embossed by Cartor Security Printers, France. Perforation is 13¼.