



INCM

Presentation of a circulation coin to commemorate 500 years since the birth of Fernão Mendes Pinto

A circulation coin to commemorate five centuries since the birth of Fernão Mendes Pinto was presented yesterday, the 8th of September. The ceremony was held on the steps of the Montemor-o-Velho town hall, the birth place of the author of *Peregrinação* (Pilgrimage), as part of the celebrations for the day of the city.

The Secretary of State for Local Government and Administrative Reform Paulo Simões Júlio attended the event, along with the Presidents of the Montemor-o-Velho Municipality and Municipal Assembly, various VIPs, the designers of the coin and citizens of Montemor. The INCM was represented by two members of its Board of Directors, Renato Leitão and Isabel Pinto Correia, who was in charge of presenting the coin.

An exhibition entitled *O Dinheiro no Tempo de Fernão Mendes Pinto (Money in the times of Fernão Mendes Pinto)*, was also inaugurated during the ceremony. This display may be visited until the 31st of October and features some examples of gold, silver and copper coins that were in circulation during the lifetime of the explorer and writer. The coins on display form part of the Portuguese Numismatic Museum and are just a small sample from the INCM's numismatic collection.

These two events represent the culmination of a partnership between the Montemor-o-Velho local government and the INCM, aimed at celebrating five centuries since the birth of Fernão Mendes Pinto. This partnership gave rise to the publication of the *INCM 2011 Diary*, dedicated to *Peregrinação*, which was presented in Montemor-o-Velho in November, 2010, and culminated with the issue of the coin and the inauguration of the exhibition entitled *O Dinheiro no Tempo de Fernão Mendes Pinto*.

The commemorative circulation coin, with a face value of 2 Euros, the Portuguese face of which has been designed by Isabel Carriço and Fernando Branco, is available in an illustrated wallet. It has a production limit of 7,500 copies with a proof finishing and 12,500 copies with a special BU finishing.

The coins are on sale in INCM shops, in banks, in specialist shops and at www.incm.pt.

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