



Figure 1. This Estonia postal card designed by Jaan Saar for Mare Balticum 2024, a show for Baltic nations that took place in Tartu, Estonia, July 26-28, shows a view of Tartu.



Figure 2. One of the 500 Mare Balticum 2024 Minu Mark stamps issued for the show. The stamp includes the show dates and the show's logo designed by Olaf Hoffmann.

Estonia new issues for Mare Balticum 2024

BY KENNETH GILBERT

Mare Balticum 2024, a regional European show, was held at the Estonian National Museum in Tartu, Estonia, July 26-28.

The revival of this show for Baltic nations after a 19-year absence had Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA) recognition, International Federation of Philately (FIP) sponsorship, 153 exhibits and a small bourse (sales area).

The United States was an invited country and was well represented with 35 exhibits. The show was graced by the presence of FIP President Prakob Chirakiti and the president of FEPA, Bill Hedley (also a juror).

Eesti Post (now run by Omniva) issued a postal card for the show on July 23, shown in Figure 1. It depicts the city of Tartu (the indicia shows the show logo) and was designed by Jaan Saar.

The card, which sold for €3.50, pays the €2.60 international rate for a postcard or letter weighing up to 250 grams. The postal card is still available from the Omniva website at <https://pood.omniva.ee/en>.

A Minu Mark (My Stamp) stamp for the show was created through Eesti Post. Minu Mark stamps are similar to the PhotoStamps formerly produced by Stamps.com.

Self-adhesive Minu Mark stamps are sold in sheets of 20 at the current domestic rate (€1.30) with the country name and denomination along the left edge of the stamp and an empty area to the right that postal customers can customize with their own designs online at the Omniva website.

The personalized sheets are then printed and shipped to the customer. The current cost is €34.40 per sheet (the sheet contains €26 in postage).

A Minu Mark stamp created for Mare Balticum 2024 is pictured in Figure 2. The stamp, designed by Olaf Hoffmann, features the



Figure 3. This cached show cover with the Mare Balticum 2024 stamp includes two July 27 show cancels.

show logo and the show dates.

A cached cover with this stamp and two of the show cancels, both from July 27, is shown in Figure 3. A total of 500 Minu Mark stamps were issued for the show. ■

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