

Wieliczka The Cracow Saltworks Museum has been collecting saltcellars since 1972; recently, attention has primarily been focused on valuable and exceptional items. Currently, the collection has approx. **500** exhibits, spanning the period from the 17<sup>th</sup> century to the modern times. There are saltcellars made of porcelain, silver, tin, glass, wood, faience, as well as more uncommon materials, such as bone, quartz and mother-of-pearl. The greatly diversified collection encompasses individual saltcellars, pairs of saltcellars, saltcellars forming sets for spices, as well as items from dinner sets. These are mainly products of well-known European manufacturing plants: German, Russian, French, English, Austrian and Polish. Classicist, Baroque, Empire, Art-Nouveau and modern items allow for tracing changes in the form of saltcellars in various periods.

The Museum collection is being intensely extended, mainly by means of purchases, but also via donations – for example, saltcellars from Honduras and Jamaica were donated last year. They joined items from exotic parts of the world, such as Niger, China and Ossetia. With the view of being presented at the new exhibition, saltcellars were subjected to conservation treatment. Thanks to this and proper arrangement and lighting, they present their entire beauty.

You are heartily welcome to see the collection.