

BUTTERFLIES: CHARISMATIC AMBASSADORS

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The world over, people see butterflies as representing endurance, comfort, transformation, hope and positivity. They are **charismatic ambassadors** or goodwill representatives aiding in the building of bridges of communication, friendship and cooperation between nations. This exhibit showcases butterflies on philatelic material celebrating bilateral relationships between countries.

Mexico and Canada

Monarch butterflies make an amazing 4000 km journey from eastern Canada to central Mexico in winter and return to Canada in spring. This phenomenal journey has formed a natural link uniting the two countries since before recorded history. Canada and Mexico share a vibrant, multi-faceted relationship characterized by deep people-to-people ties, and growing trade and investment, prompting both countries to very aptly feature the monarch butterfly on stamps to mark a half-century of diplomatic relations.



Scott 1877, Mexico, 1994, 2p, rouletted perforation
Stylised *Danaus plexippus* (100%)
Cancellation on Folio



Scott 1563, Canada, 1995, 45c *Danaus plexippus* (100%), featuring migratory route and map
FDC cancellation with country flags

Singapore and Philippines

Singapore and Philippines enjoy a close and warm relationship that has remained vibrant, and grown stronger over the years. To commemorate and celebrate the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between both countries a joint stamp was issued in 2019, featuring butterflies of both countries. Symbolizing the two nations, the miniature sheet features two butterflies, the Common rose, *Pachliopta aristolochiae* (Papilionidae), the national butterfly of Singapore, and Luzon lacewing, *Cethosia luzonica* (Nymphalidae), an endemic species in the Philippines.



Yt: SG BF206, Singapore, 2019, \$1.30

Miniature sheet and two se-tenant stamps (shown at 70%) featuring Common Rose Butterfly, emblematic of Singapore and Luzon Lacewing Butterfly, representing Philippines, a joint stamp issue celebrating 50 years of Diplomatic Relations between the two countries

Jersey (United Kingdom) and China

China and Jersey have shared many exchanges between them to explore each other's cultures, natural resources and ways of life. To celebrate their natural links with China, Jersey issued stamps of two butterflies in 2017 that are found in both locations, each representing two ends of the faunal region called the Palearctic Region. The stamps feature the Black-veined White, *Aporia crataegi* (Pieridae) and the Common Yellow Swallowtail, *Papilio machaon* (Papilionidae).



Map showing Jersey and China at two ends of the Palearctic Region

Scott 2069 and 2071, Jersey (UK), 2017, 49p

Miniature sheet (shown at 55%) from FDC featuring the two butterflies along with Chinese common names
FDC cancellation featuring Black-veined White butterfly

Colourful and captivating, butterflies also enrich the lives of onlookers and bring a feeling of peace. An abundance of different butterfly species is a good indicator of the health of ecosystems.