

Citrine

From yellow to brownish or reddish orange and everything in between, citrine comes in an assortment of warm colours, making it a great autumn birthstone. This variety of quartz has been used in jewellery for centuries, although most historical citrine jewellery dates from the Victorian era. Often available in large sizes and with high clarity, it has become a popular and affordable choice for everyday jewellery. This stone symbolizes energy, confidence and success.

Colour

Citrine is traditionally known for its yellow colour. That is why its name means "lemon-coloured" in French and Latin. The most valuable citrine is a saturated yellow to reddish orange without any brown tints. Contemporary jewellery, however, often features brownish or reddish orange citrine marketed under delectable names such as "butterscotch" or "whiskey" citrine.

Citrine and amethyst can occur in the same crystal. The unusual, bi-coloured gem that results is called ametrine.

Clarity

Citrine is known for its clarity and does not typically contain eye-visible inclusions. Inclusions lower its value.

Treatments

Naturally-coloured citrine is rare; most citrine is amethyst or smoky quartz that has been heat-treated to change its colour to yellow.

Sources

The top sources for natural citrine are Bolivia, Spain, Madagascar, Mexico and Uruguay. However, the majority of citrine on the market today is heat-treated amethyst from Brazil. Bolivia is the only commercial producer of ametrine.

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