



## A M E T H Y S T

First Draft

01.03.06

- Origin** The finest amethyst forms in geodes (gas cavities) in volcanic rocks. Crystals that are part amethyst and part citrine are called ametrine.
- Composition** Silicon dioxide  $\text{SiO}_2$  with iron
- Structure** Trigonal
- Colour** Shades of purple, lilac and mauve, transparent, translucent and opaque.
- Inclusions** Common
- Sources** Amethyst comes from around the world, including Cornwall, parts of Africa, South America, Russia, S.E.Asia and China. Crystals source their rough amethyst geodes, cones and beds from Brazil although significant amounts are from Uruguay (traded through Brazil). Amethyst used in our jewellery settings comes additionally from a number of African countries and occasionally from elsewhere. The very deep/dark amethyst is commonly African, i.e. South Africa, Zaire and Namibia. Stones are cut in many countries. We are presently using cutters in Jaipur (normally Muslim) and Hong Kong (China).
- Company History** Amethyst was absolutely the key inspiration for Ray in the vision for our company. A Healing Room at a Yorkshire centre was completely full of amethyst. It was the first stone Ray bought for his collection. Our first shop in Torquay featured amethyst prominently and it remains at the heart of Crystals (UK) Ltd. A constant inspiration, it renews our raw enthusiasm for stones on a daily basis and, yes, Ray does have a large geode in his bedroom! Many staff feel that amethyst has played a large part in their lives. It is our belief that spreading amethyst has been an important part of our company's purpose. Amethyst is one of our three major stones, the others being rose quartz and clear quartz.
- Personal** Buying and selling amethyst has proved to be personally the most satisfying and fulfilling activity I have undertaken in Crystals.

Ray Mason March 2006

Crystals (UK) Ltd T/A Crystals Reg. No. 5056864