

# Mineral of the Month Club



## Platinum Letter January 2014 Featured Mineral- Fluorite

Dear Platinum-Level Members,

Our featured mineral for January is fluorite from the Huanggang Mine in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region of China. Our specimens are notable on several counts. First, unlike the pale coloration of most fluorite specimens, these have a rich, intense purple color. Second, the Huanggang Mine is one of the “crown jewels” of China’s mining industry. As China’s newest and most modern underground mine, it symbolizes the expansion and modernization that is revolutionizing Chinese mining. Huanggang has also become a new source of mineral specimens. The mine, which exploits a mineralogically complex skarn deposit, just yielded its first specimens in 2010. But Huanggang has already earned recognition as a classic locality for fluorite and several other mineral species. Collectors will be hearing much more about Huanggang in the coming years.

The source of fluorite can often be determined by its visual appearance. In terms of color, crystal structure, and mineralogical associations, fluorite from various localities can be quite distinctive, as is the case with our Huanggang specimens. With their intense, purple color and reddish highlights, excellent cubic-crystal structure, and associations with calcite and pyrite, Huanggang fluorite cannot be confused with fluorite specimens from any other locality.

We have selected the best of our Huanggang fluorite specimens for our Platinum Level members and have sorted these into three groups based on size, degree of crystal development, complexity, mineralogical associations, and overall visual appeal.

# Featured Mineral Fluorite



## Group 1

The specimens in this group on average measure 3x5 inches and have a rich purple color. Crystals clearly show the cubic form and are arranged in attractive clusters that cover one side of the specimen.

**Specimen size: 2.5" x 4" to 4" x 6"**

**Price range:\$65.00 to \$125.00**

# Featured Mineral Fluorite



## Group2

These specimens have a more intense purple color, excellent development of the cubic form, larger size of both individual crystals and crystal clusters, and overall, greater complexity of crystal arrangements. Many of the specimens have crystals appear on both sides, and the fluorite is associated with minor pyrite and calcite.

**Specimen size: 3" x 4" to 4" x 6"**

**Price range: \$50.00-\$75.00 \$95.00 to \$225.00**

# Featured Mineral



## Group 3

The specimens in this group represent the best and largest of our Huanggang fluorite specimens. Individual crystals measuring up to one-half-inch in size, are arranged in complex clusters, and many of the specimens have crystals covering both sides of the specimen. The crystals exhibit excellent cubic development and have an intense purple color with flashes of reddish highlights. With their exceptional transparency, intense color, glassy luster, and association with minor pyrite and calcite, these specimens make fine display pieces.

**Specimen size: 2" x 4" to 4" x 6" and 6" x 8"    Price range: \$55.00 to \$125.00 and \$350.00**

# Further Information

## Coming in February



Our February Mineral of the Month is Aragonite, a polymorphic form of calcium carbonate, from Morocco. Our write-up will explain the origin of their pseudo-hexagonal form and brownish-orange color, and discusses the emergence of Morocco as a source of fine mineral specimens.

Because Platinum Level specimens vary by price, quality, size, and overall visual appearance, we have graded these specimens accordingly. Please remember that if the size and quality of a particular group is appropriate for your personal collection, we would be pleased to set up an automatic, monthly, standing-order arrangement. Call us for full information.

**Discounts available:** If you order 4 or more minerals from the offer sheet you will receive a 10% discount.

**Ordering:** To place an order you can call #800-941-5594 or email [christlne@celestiaearthminerals.com](mailto:christlne@celestiaearthminerals.com)

**Shipping:** As always, shipping is free in the United States.

**Specimen size:** All our specimens are approximate in size.

**Method of payment:** We accept, Visa, MasterCard, American Express and checks.

*Please make checks payable to Celestial Earth Stones.*

