

Mineral of the Month Club



December 2015

Featured Mineral Hyalite

We're back.....with another month and another new mineral for you.

Our featured mineral of the month is a variety of opal that is the only transparent opal that exists and exhibits the phenomenon of daylight fluorescence. For the seasoned rock hound, it is a "subvariety of the common variety of opal."

The hyalite is a transparent, lustrous, bubble-like (botryoidal) coating that sits atop a matrix of altered granite. The specimen that you'll receive is from Zacatecas, Mexico. As you rotate the hyalite in daylight you will see flashes of rainbow-like iridescence dance across its surface.



This iridescence is caused by light reflecting from the multiple layers of silica at or near the surface; it should not be confused with the opalescence of precious opal, which is created by reflections from an internal, silica-spherule structure. Under incandescent and fluorescent artificial light (indoor lighting), the hyalite appears almost colorless. But when viewed in daylight, the hyalite exhibits a pale, distinct, greenish-yellow hue that is caused by daylight fluorescence.

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In photo #1 you can see the transparent, bubble-like hyalite. In photo #2 you see the green fluorescence in daylight and in photo #3 the fluorescence under ultraviolet light indoors, but not in the dark.

The photos are from the FMF Minerals Forum at: <http://www.mineral-forum.com/message-board/viewtopic.php?p=36976>

Our platinum level specimens consist of a matrix of weathered granite coated with transparent, botryoidal hyalite. All show small flashes of surface iridescence and exhibit the color shift of daylight fluorescence.

These specimens vary by overall size, as well as in the size and development of the botryoidal structures of hyalite. The larger specimens best exhibit the color shift of daylight fluorescence and make superb display pieces.

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Group 1



Specimen size: 2.5" x 2.5" to 3.5" x 3.5" **Price range:** \$65.00 - \$95.00

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Group 2



Indoor lighting



Indoor with ultra-violet light

Specimen size: 3.5" x 3.5" to 4.5" x 4.0"

Price ranges: \$95.00- \$175.00

Further Information

Coming in January



January's featured mineral will be halite from Searles Lake in Trona California. It is an evaporite mineral that ranges in color from white to pale pink to varying degrees of pink. On occasion halite will develop as a pale green or blue tint. Our specimens will range in color from white to light pink.

We love to hear from our members, so please call or email anytime!

Discounts available: If you order 4 or more minerals from the Featured Mineral letter and/or the Offering sheet you will receive a 10% discount on your mineral purchase.

Ordering: To place an order you can call #800-941-5594 or email christlne@celestialearthminerals.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, Discover, PayPal and checks.

Please make checks payable to Celestial Earth Stones.

