

Utah Travel Council  
Council Hall/Capitol Hill  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

GEM LOCALITIES OF UTAH

The following list of gemstone localities in Utah was made up by Ken Stewart's Gem Shop, Salt Lake City, Utah, with the help of members of the Wasatch Gem Society and the Utah Mineralogical Society, both of Salt Lake City. The list is to be used in conjunction with Utah road maps obtainable at the Utah Travel Council or at service stations of the leading oil companies. Please take your litter home with your rocks, or dispose of it in properly designated places. If you burn it, be careful with your fires!

1. TOPAZ. The Salt Lake Societies have taken out claims in this area so all may enjoy hunting for topaz. Please sign the register at the camp grounds. No water here. May be reached from Delta or Jericho from U.S. 6. These directions are from Jericho. Jericho is about 15 miles south of Eureka, Juab County. Approximately 11.1 miles west from Jericho take left fork, 40.5 miles take left fork, 1.1 miles (Joy Road) take right fork, 2.7 miles, take side road on right and take first left road and then keep on right trail 2 miles to camp. Topaz crystals everywhere, but small. Ahead and to the right, under the saddle is the usual hunting area. Area name Topaz Mountain
2. FLOWERING OBSIDIAN. About 5 miles north of Black Rock on Delta to Milford Road, take road east across the railroad tracks. Obsidian may be found everywhere but requires hunting. Pumice quarry in area.
3. GOLDEN LABRADORITE. Claims have been staked by the Salt Lake societies so you may hunt here. About 1 mile north of the Clear Lake railroad station, on the road from Delta to Milford, are two small cinder mounds. Cross railroad tracks and hunt on and in area.
4. IRON SPECIMENS. Cedar City, U.S. 91. Inquire locally for directions to iron mines west of the city.
5. GEODES. At Dugway Pass. Do not make this trip as a one-car party. Have company. The road can be bad and dangerous and at times it is not very well traveled. No water. Turn off Utah State Highway 36 near Vernon, west over Lookout Pass. Dugway Pass to Callao. This is the old Pony Express Trail. 4 miles west from the top of Dugway Pass take a faint road on the north side. After crossing a big wash the road branches to the different diggings. Claims have been taken out in several areas. The areas are in Juab County, near the center of the northern boundary. They are not in the Dugway Proving Grounds.
6. VARISCITE. Has been found near Grantsville, Lucin and Fairfield. All locations held by private claims and no trespassing.
7. PYROPE GARNETS. In the Four Corners area you can sometimes trade with the Indians for fine stones. The Four Corners area is where the four states of Utah, Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico all come together. Sometimes the Indians have good peridot for trading too. Examine the area for large ant hills in this part of the country as the ants often bring both garnets and peridots to the surface.
8. FOSSILS. Marine fossils and agatized specimens can be found east of Vernon, in Spanish Fork Canyon, east of Cedar City, west of Orderville, and in many other areas throughout the state. Choice specimens of red horn coral are found in the mountains near Kamas. Trilobites can be found in area of Antelope Springs, west of Delta near Margum Pass, U.S. 6. Take well traveled road to right, west of Delta about 31 miles. About 11 miles further to spring.

9. WONDERSTONE. This fine gemstone is found in a number of places but the best material comes from Salina Canyon and from diggings off U-36 between Vernon and Eureka.
10. SEPTARIAN NODULES. Some are found in the Green River and Moab areas but the best ones come from the area west of Orderville, Kane County.
11. PETRIFIED WOOD. Petrified wood, in its many natural and unnatural hues, is widely distributed throughout the state. Beautiful specimens of black and white, along with reds and browns have been found near Heber City, while opalized wood of good quality is dug in Summit County. Some of the most highly colored and finest wood to be found anywhere is located in the Escalante region while the Henry Mountains abound with agatized wood of the highest quality. Dinosaur bone and agate can also be found in this region.
12. AGATE. Jericho U.S. 6. The supply of this agate is practically exhausted although some may be found in the hills east of the highway. Some very fine agate, jasper and dinosaur bone may be found in the hills and badlands of Last Chance desert south of Emery Utah. The road goes past the old Last Chance diggings and out into the badlands. Much of the collecting area can be reached by car, but in order to get to the best agate and the dinosaur bone, a jeep or four-wheel drive truck is required. Beautiful red agate and jasper is also available at Table Mountain south of Simpson Springs. From Simpson Springs proceed southwest to the old river bed and turn left on the Bennion Ranch road. Within a short distance from the ranch the road turns right to the diggings.

BLACK AGATE. U.S. 91 to Levan. State 28 to Gunnison. Approximately 13 miles from Levan take dirt road to east. At .7 to 1 mile you should be in the area. Found on ridges and in draws to right after passing shed, corrals and reservoirs.

RED AGATE. State 128, Cisco to Moab. Along Colorado River, approximately 10.4 miles from Cisco. Agate on hill to right. To left is the junction of the Colorado and Delores Rivers. Along this road to Moab, in the hills, some very nice bone and wood has been reported.

GRAPE AGATE. Beautiful grape agate and jasper nodules are abundant in the area between Green River and Hanksville.

Other Utah field trips in past issues of the Journal have appeared as follows:

ROCK HUNTING IN UTAH - April, 1953  
 UTAH'S SEPTARIAN NODULES AND FOSSILS - April, 1954  
 AGATES OF SOUTHWESTERN UTAH - April, 1957  
 HUNTING PILES OF ROCKS IN UTAH - April, 1958

All these issues are available through the LAPIDARY JOURNAL, Box 518, Del Mar, California, at \$1.00 each.

We wish you good hunting and that you will get what you can use. Please don't be like some before and try to haul the whole state away. There will be other nice folks like you who will visit these areas, and we hope all enjoy our wonderful rock hunting.

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GEMSTONES

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