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Diamond Industry ABC Guide on Famous Diamonds in History:

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A number of large or extraordinary diamonds have become famous in the World. As examples of the beautiful nature of diamonds and because of the famous people who wore, bought and sold them. Here's a list of some of the most famous diamonds in history as follows:

THE CULLINAN



Weight: 3106ct rough

Origin: Transvaal, South Africa

The Cullinan is the largest gem quality diamond ever found, it was discovered at the Premier Mine on 26th January 1905. The rough diamond was nearly flawless and named the Cullinan in honour of Sir Thomas Cullinan, the founder of the Premier Mine, who was visiting that very day. Louis Botha, premier of the Transvaal, persuaded his government to buy the diamond for approximately US \$1 million and presented it to England's King Edward VII as a token of thanks for granting Transvaal its own constitution.

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THE EUREKA



Weight: 10.73ct polished, one of two diamonds cut from 21.25ct of rough

Shape: Oval Brilliant

Colour: Yellow

Clarity: Unknown

Origin: Northern Cape, South Africa

The Eureka was discovered by chance by a 15-year-old boy, Erasmus Jacobs, on the south bank of the Orange River near Hopetown, Kimberley in 1867 and later handed it to his neighbour, farmer Schalk van Niekerk, who was a collector of unusual stones. Van Niekerk entrusted the stone to John O'Reilly, a travelling peddler, who sent it in an unsealed envelope to Dr. W.G. Atherstone of Grahamstown, one of the few people who knew anything about minerals and gems. Dr. Atherstone identified the stone as a 21.25ct brownish-yellow diamond and was sold to Sir Phillip Wodehouse for GBP 1,500.

STAR OF AFRICA



Weight: 47.75ct polished, 83.50ct rough

Shape: Pear Shape Brilliant

Colour: Unrecorded

Clarity: Unrecorded

Origin: Zandfontein Farm, South Africa

At 530.20 carats the Star of Africa diamond is the largest cut diamond in the world. Pear shaped, with 74 facets, it is set in the Royal scepter (kept with the other crown jewels in the Tower of London). It was cut from the 3,106 carat Cullinan, the largest diamond crystal ever found. The Cullinan was discovered by Frederick Wells, a mine superintendent in Transvaal, South Africa in 1895 on an inspection tour of the Premier Mine. The Cullinan was cut by Joseph Asscher and Company of Amsterdam, who examined the enormous crystal for around six months before determining how to divide it. It eventually yielded nine major and 96 smaller brilliant-cut stones. When the Cullinan was first discovered, certain signs suggested that it could have been part of a much larger crystal, but no discovery of the 'missing half' has ever been authenticated.

HOPE DIAMOND



Weight: 45.52ct

Shape: Oval Brilliant

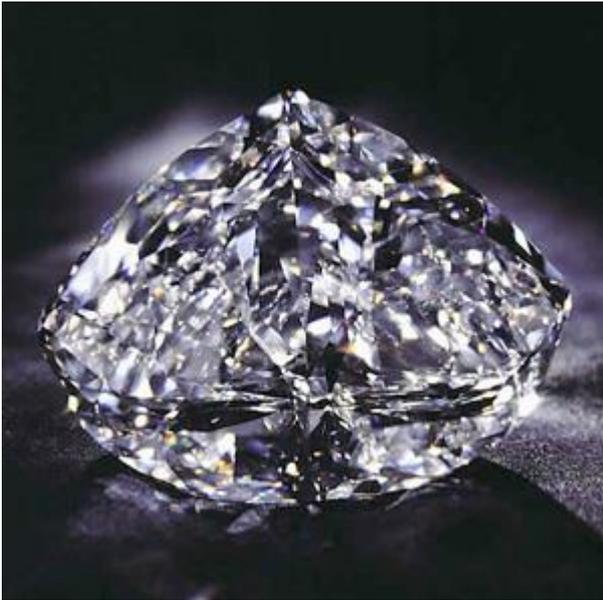
Colour: Dark Blue

Clarity: Reported Flawless

Origin: Unknown but believed to originate from India

Widely considered the most famous diamond in the world, the Hope Diamond receives its name from Henry Thomas Hope and was discovered centuries ago in the southern region of India. Long before the fabled bad luck associated with its owners, the Hope Diamond has an illustrious history. It was believed to have a great mystical power that surrounded this unusual size and unique colour, a deep indigo blue. The Hope was reputedly used to adorn the statue of a Hindu idol.

CENTENARY DIAMOND



Weight: 273.85ct polished, 599ct rough

Shape: Pear Shape

Colour: D

Clarity: Flawless

Origin: Premier Mine, South Africa

The Centenary was found on 17th July 1986 by the electric X-ray recovery system at the Premier Mine. Only a handful of people knew about it and all were sworn to silence. In its rough form it resembled an irregular matchbox with angular planes, a prominent elongated horn jutting out at one corner and a deep concave on the largest flat surface. The shape of the stone expressed problems in cutting with no apparent solution.

De Beers unveiled the Centenary Diamond, the world's second largest modern-cut flawless diamond, on the company's 100th birthday in 1988. At 273.85 carats, this stone is remarkable for its numerous facets: 164 on the stone and 83 on the girdle. The stone was cut from a 599ct flawless rough diamond and was found in the renowned De Beers Group Premier Mine, birthplace to many other famous diamonds such as the Cullinan and the Heart of Eternity. The Centenary is

the largest modern fancy cut diamond in the world and the only one to combine the oldest methods – such as kerfing – with the most sophisticated modern technology in cutting.

THE DE BEERS



Weight: 234.65ct

Origin: De Beers Mine, Kimberley South Africa

Not long after the formation of De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited in March 1888, a huge light yellow octahedral crystal was found in the De Beers Mine. The gem weighed 428.50 old carats (old carats being the pre-1913 non-metric carat) and measured 47.6 mm through its longest axis and 38.1 mm square. Excluding Victoria, aka the Great White or Jacob, the source of which remains doubtful, the De Beers was the largest diamond found at the four mines at Kimberley during that time period.

THE PREMIER ROSE



Weight: 137.02ct polished, 353.9ct rough

Shape: Pear Shape

Colour: D

Clarity: Flawless

Origin: Premier Mine, South Africa

Weighing 137.02 carats, the Premier Rose is one of the largest D-colour flawless diamonds in the world. In March 1978 the Premier Mine in South Africa, the mine that produced the 1,306 carat Cullinan Diamond, yielded yet another remarkable diamond, triangular-shaped cleavage of the finest colour, weighing 353.9 carats. Like an earlier gem found at the Premier, the Niarchos, this one too travelled right through the various stages of mining recovery only to emerge at the final one, the grease table in the recovery plant.

THE TIFFANY YELLOW DIAMOND



Weight: 128.54ct polished, 287.42ct rough

Shape: Cushion Cut

Colour: Yellow

Origin: Kimberley, South Africa

The Tiffany Yellow Diamond, one of the largest fancy yellow diamonds ever discovered. It weighed 287.42ct in the rough when discovered in 1878 in the Kimberley mine in South Africa, and was cut into a cushion shape of 128.54cts with 90 facets – 32 more than a traditional round brilliant – to maximize its brilliance. It appears in the 'Bird on a Rock',² a setting designed in the early 1960s by Jean Schlumberger, loaned by Tiffany & Co., New York.

THE KIMBERLEY



Weight: 55.09ct polished (previously 70ct polished)

Cut: Step Cut

Origin: Kimberley, South Africa

A flawless, 70-carat, step cut, champagne-coloured diamond that was found in the Kimberley Mine, South Africa. It was recut into this modern shape in 1921 from a large, flat stone that was once in the Russian Crown Jewels. In 1958, the stone was again recut by its owners, Baumgold Bros., New York City, to improve the proportions and increase brilliancy. It now weighs 55.09carats and is valued by the firm at US \$500,000, but is probably worth considerably more. Baumgold Bros. sold the stone in 1971 to an undisclosed collector.

HEART OF ETERNITY



Weight: 27.64ct polished

This 27.64 carat heart-shaped stone is renowned for the intensity of its colour, described by experts as 'vivid blue'. The Heart of Eternity was one of 11 rare blue diamonds unveiled to the world in January 2000 as part of a special collection of De Beers Millennium Jewels. This collection, which also featured the famous Millennium Star, was gathered by the De Beers Group over many years to celebrate the new millennium.

Recent Diamond Findings:

Rare blue diamond found in South Africa sold for £17m



Weight: 122.52 carat

Origin: Cullinan mine near Pretoria in South Africa

Mining firm Petra Diamonds uncovered the stone in June 2014 in South Africa and held a sale of the stone last week. The size – as big as a strawberry – and its rare blue colour led experts to believe the finished polished stone could fetch up to £60m.

Petra Diamonds mines 138-carat white diamond



Weight: 138 carat

Origins: Cullinan mine near Pretoria in South Africa.

Colour: D

The diamond is classified as type IIa, meaning it has high clarity and it was found in 2016.

Magnificent' diamond found in Cullinan



Weight: 232 carat

Colour: D

Origins: Cullinan mine near Pretoria in South Africa

The stone is a D colour Type II diamond of exceptional size and clarity, and is a magnificent example of the large, high quality diamonds for which the mine is known. Analysts predicted that it could fetch between \$10m and \$16m, found in 2014.

Cullinan Heritage Diamond



Weight: 507-carat

Colour: D

Origins: Cullinan mine near Pretoria in South Africa

The Cullinan Heritage Diamond is one the largest diamond Petra has unearthed in 2009. It was sold for \$35.3 million on tender in South Africa and was purchased by Hong Kong-based Chow Tai Fook Jewellery.

The Graff Venus



Weight: 118.78-carat polished, 357-carat rough

Shape: Heart

Colour: D

Origins: Letšeng Mine in Lesotho

Flawless heart-shape diamond, was unveiled in London the type IIa diamond, with “excellent” polish and symmetry and no fluorescence, was cut in-house by Graff. Named in celebration of the Roman goddess of Love, The Graff Venus is also happens to be the largest D Flawless heart shape diamond in the world.