

**Dave Barthelmy**

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**Celestial Earth Minerals**  
**December 2013**  
**Fine Mineral New Arrival**  
**Cactus Quartz**  
(Quartz var. Amethyst)





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This month we are happy to announce the addition of several stunning pieces of Cactus Quartz. Mineralogists refer to it as "Quartz variety amethyst sub-variety cactus quartz due in part to its "cactus" like crystal structure. The only significant collecting locality is the Boekenhoutshoek area in the Mkobola District, Mpumalanga Province, South Africa which increases the collecting appeal.

What is so very interesting about the cactus quartz is that it occurs in both macrocrystalline and microcrystalline forms and has colors ranging from pale lilac to deep purple, bright orange and brilliant pinks. Most often they are characterized by a central crystal or cluster of crystals with a secondary overgrowth of drusy crystals. In some cases you will see a lovely star colored termination point.

You can view photographs of each mineral on our website under the **Fine Minerals Gallery tab** or the **New Arrivals** section of our home page.

Read other in-depth articles in our ever growing **Library of articles**. [visit our website](#)

Please continue to visit and revisit our website as each month we will make new additions to enhance our selection and your collection.

On the 1st of the month we will announce the arrival of one new fine mineral.

On the 15th of each month we will also announce the arrival of other new minerals and crystals.



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