

**"BUSINESS TO BUSINESS"
GEM, JEWELRY &
LAPIDARY TRADE SHOWS**



2007

Orlando, FL.....January 5-6-7

Asheville, NC.....January 9-10

Tucson, AZ.....January 27-February 9

TUCSON

Gem Mall
January 27 - February 9

Holiday Inn-Palo Verde/Holidome
February 1 - February 9

Rodeway/Quality Inn on Grant Road
January 27 - February 9

West Springfield, MA.....March 23-24

Minneapolis, MN.....April 15-16

Detroit, MI.....April 20-21-22

Orlando, FL.....May 4-5-6

Franklin, NC.....May 11-12-13

Las Vegas, NV.....June 1-2-3

Albuquerque, NM.....June 8-9-10

Detroit, MI.....July 13-14-15

Baltimore, MD.....July 20-21

Franklin, NC.....July 26-27-28-29

Spruce Pine, NC.....August 2-3-4-5

Tucson, AZ.....September 6-7-8-9

Minneapolis, MN.....Sep. 30-Oct. 1

Detroit, MI.....October 5-6-7

West Springfield, MA.....October 12-13

Asheville, NC.....October 23-24

Orlando, FL.....October 26-27-28

Richmond, VA.....November 2-3

• Dates subject to change •

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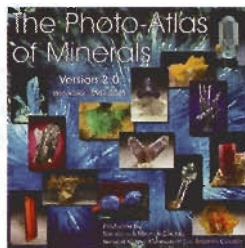
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MEDIA REVIEWS

**The Photo-Atlas of Minerals,
version 2.0 [DVD-ROM],**

Kampf, A. R. and Gerhold, G.,
Natural History Museum of Los
Angeles County, California, 2006.
\$59.95 (upgrade \$39.95). Can be
ordered through www.nhm.org/pam/.
Reviewed by John S. White.

If you have ever dreamed of having most of the relevant current information about minerals virtually at your finger tips without having to refer to a variety of textbooks and journals, coupled with some 16,000 high-resolution photographs taken by many of the best contemporary mineral photographers, then *The Photo-Atlas of Minerals* version 2.0 is the answer to your dreams. Textbooks quickly become obsolete, and working with journals is time-consuming and physically demanding as you go from indices to various pages which may or may not have the information you are seeking. Now, you can find just about anything you want right on your computer if you purchase *The Photo-Atlas of Minerals* and download it (which requires nearly 4 GB of hard disk space). Alternatively you may use the program from the DVD drive but access to the images will be slower and some features may not be available in this mode.



The program is loaded with goodies. All known mineral species (more than 4,100) are included as of the publication date. In addition there is an extensive list of synonyms and variety names. There are images of mineral specimens from more than 3,500 localities and you can add your own images as well. Each mineral is provided with a complete description including crystallographic data, type locality, origin of name, and most have links to user controlled crystal drawings and atomic structure drawings. Even audible mineral name pronunciations are provided.

The user can search the database by physical properties, chemistry, localities, and crystal system which is a wonderful

tool in mineral identification. Coming up with likely candidates and then being able to match these possibilities with wonderful images is a great asset.

Admittedly, much of the data provided can now be accessed by visiting a number of Internet sources, but in my experience none are equal to what *The Photo-Atlas* provides overall. There are also countless images of minerals available on the Internet but you will not find any other compilation of mineral images that can match the superior quality of the nearly 16,000 in this package, some 10,000 of which were taken by Jeff Scovil, Wendell Wilson, and Dan Behrke. For those interested in greater technical detail on an individual mineral, one of the links produces the appropriate page from *Handbook of Mineralogy* for that mineral.

There is so much more that one can say about this product, but it is probably enough to state that in my opinion it is unquestionably the best reference out there for the serious mineral collector or professional in terms of what it offers in just one small affordable package. Great images are its foremost attribute but with other features like mineral data, mineral pronunciations, crystal drawings, atomic structures, both Dana and Strunz classifications, a glossary of mineral terms, and various ways to search, all wonderfully integrated for convenient and swift access, the *The Photo-Atlas of Minerals* is a "must have" for all mineral enthusiasts.

John S. White has been an avid mineral collector all his life. His firm, Kustos, provides a variety of services to the gem and mineral community. He is a former Curator-in-Charge of Mineral Sciences at the Smithsonian, the founder of the *Mineralogical Record* magazine, and currently a regular contributor to *Rocks & Minerals* magazine.



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