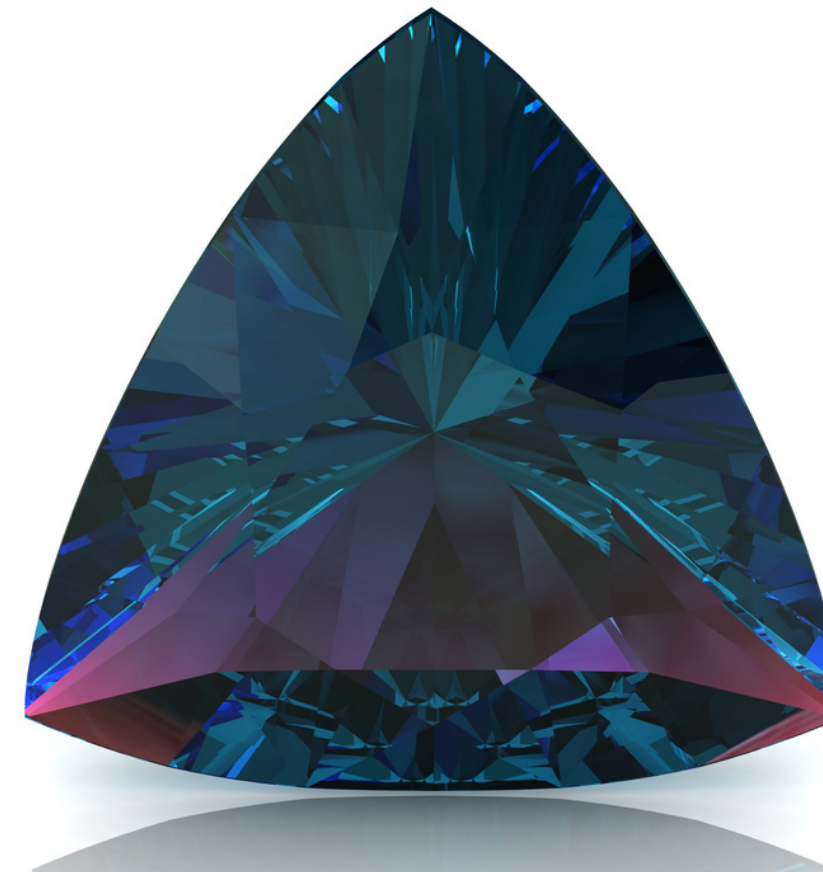
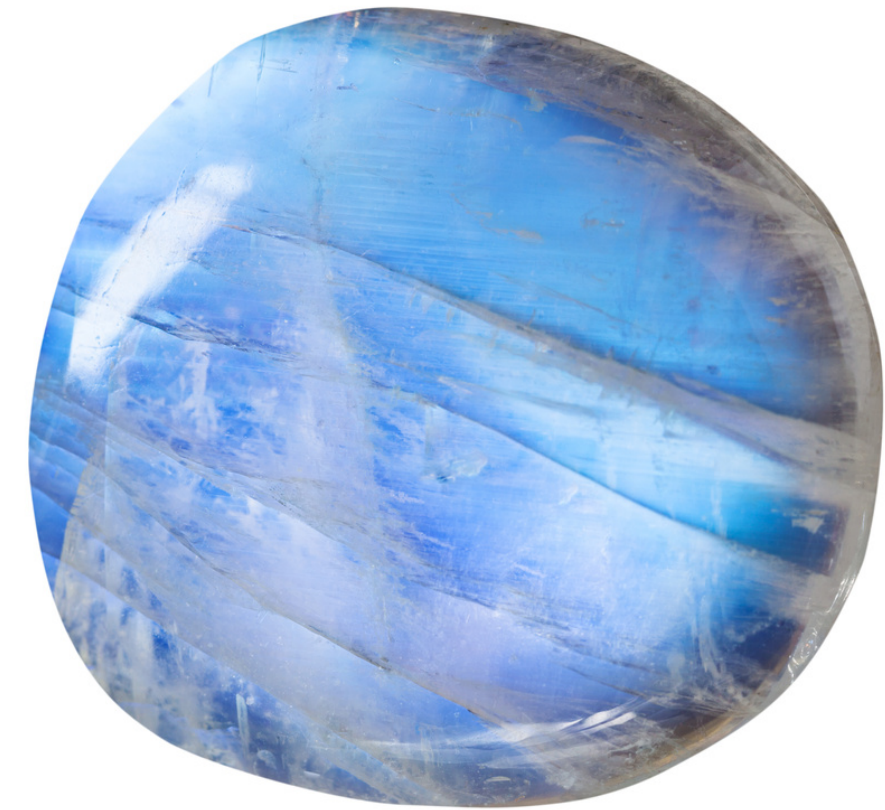
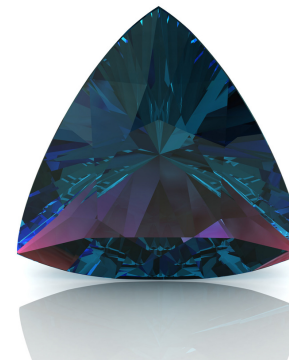


June Birthstones

Alexandrite, Moonstone & Pearl

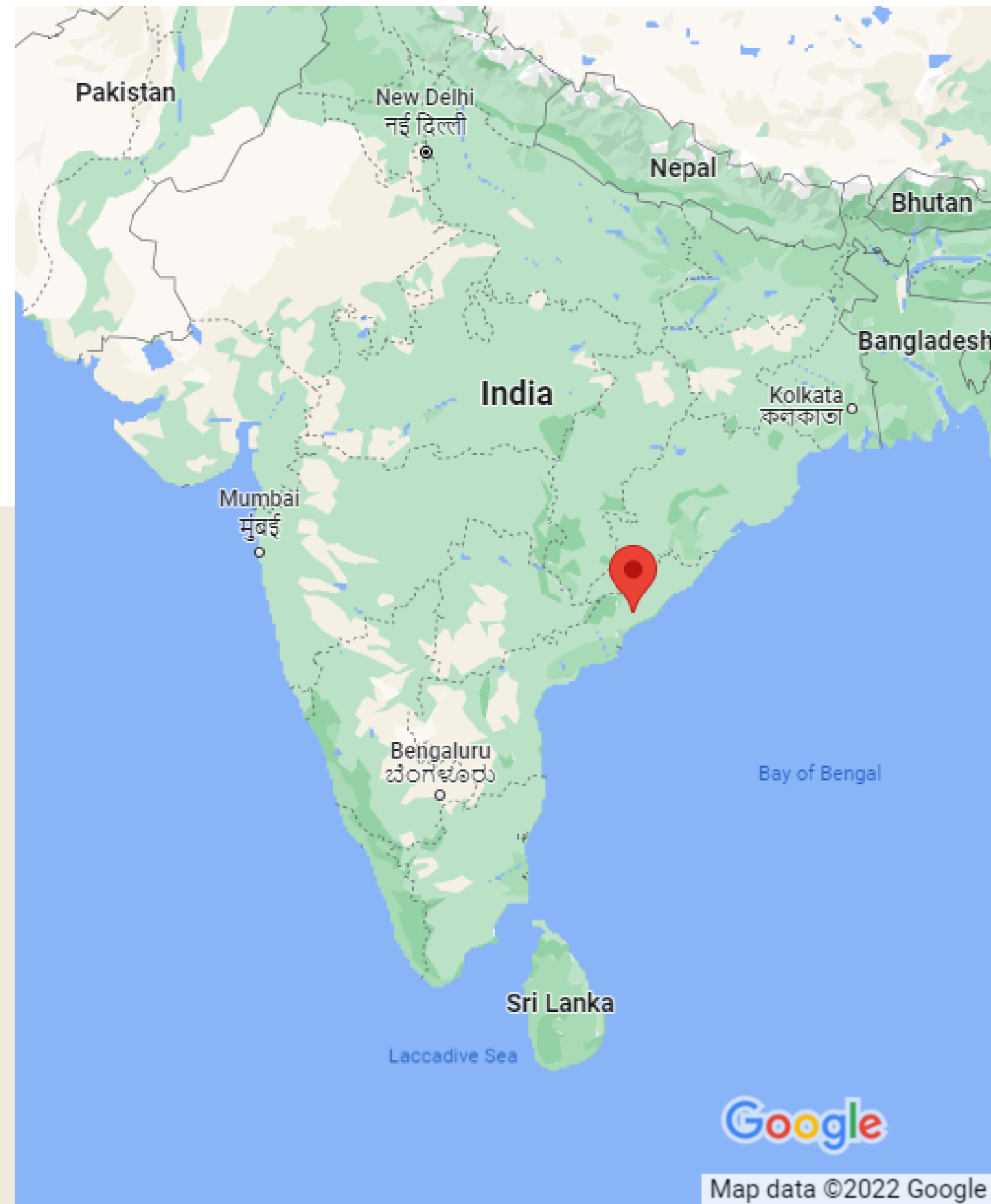


Alexandrite



- Alexandrite is the very rare color-changing variety of the mineral chrysoberyl
- Often described by gem aficionados as “Emerald by day, Ruby by night.”
- Strong Color change from yellowish, bluish green in daylight to reddish purple, purplish red in incandescent light
- 100% Natural stone
- Rank 8.5 on the Mohs scale of hardness
- June’s birthstone since 1950
- Is traditionally a 55th anniversary gift
- Mined worldwide
- Our supply comes from Indian mines in Narsipatnam (a town in Andhra Pradesh, India)

Narsipatnam (a town in Andhra Pradesh, India)



Alexandrite History



- In 1830 Alexandrite was first discovered in Russia's Ural Mountains
- Valued by mineralogist Nils Gustaf Nordenskiöld
- Named in 1834 by Count Lev Alekseevich Perovskii
- Named after Czar of Russia, Alexander II who emancipated Russia's serfs and was assassinated in 1881
- The stone was discovered on Alexander II's birthday
- Alexandrite's red and green hue matched Russian military colors
- Hence, also named official gemstone of Russian tsardom

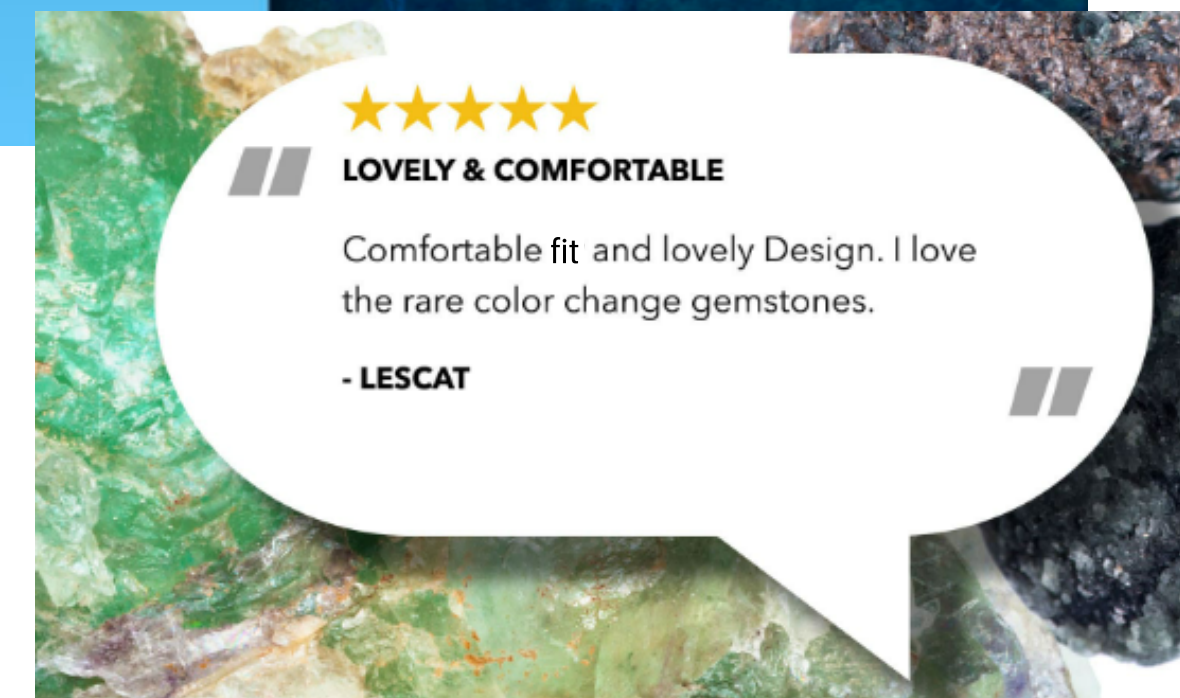


Alexzander II, Czar of Russia

Alexandrite



- Requires both Beryllium & Chromium
- Beryllium is one of the rarest elements
- Both minerals rarely co-exist in same rock
- Only one mine existed worldwide until 1980
- That mine was exhausted after few decades of mining
- More sources emerged after 1980
- However, there is still limited production from mines
- Its chameleon-like qualities make it a fascinating gemstone to own



Alexandrite Cleaning and Care

Alexandrite is a 8.5 on the Mohs scale of hardness and has no cleavage meaning it is not as prone to breaking

It is a good stone for everyday wear

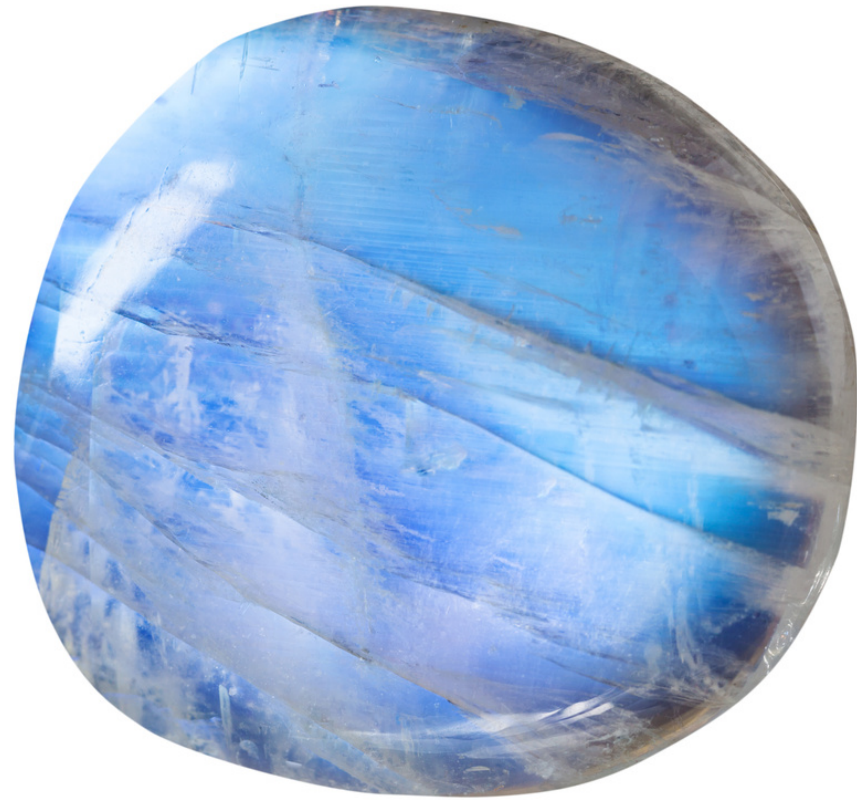
It is also resistant to the effects of heat, light, and common chemicals

Warm soapy water is always safe for cleaning

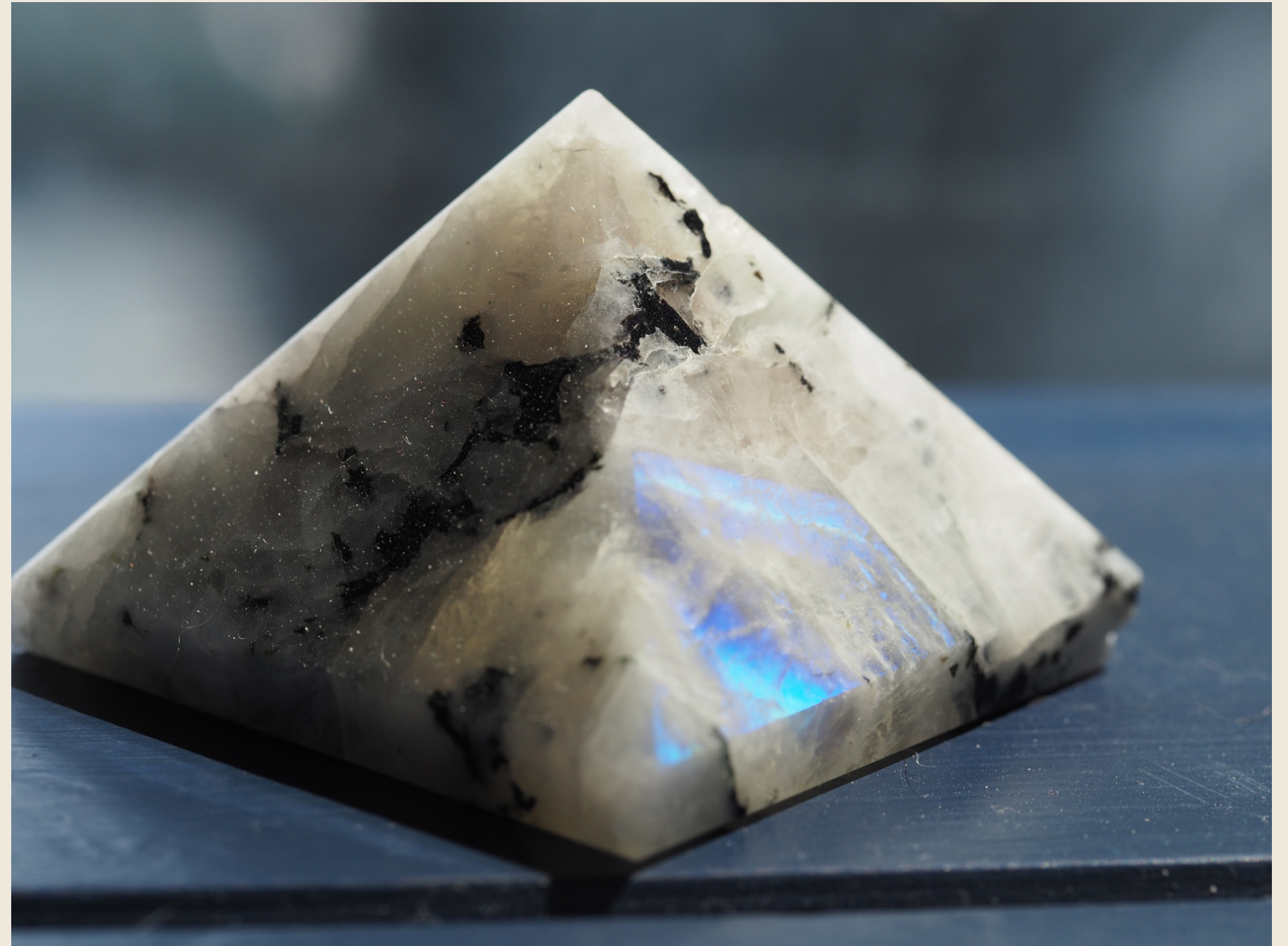
Ultrasonic and steam cleaners are usually safe

Fracture-filled gemstones should only be cleaned with warm, soapy water

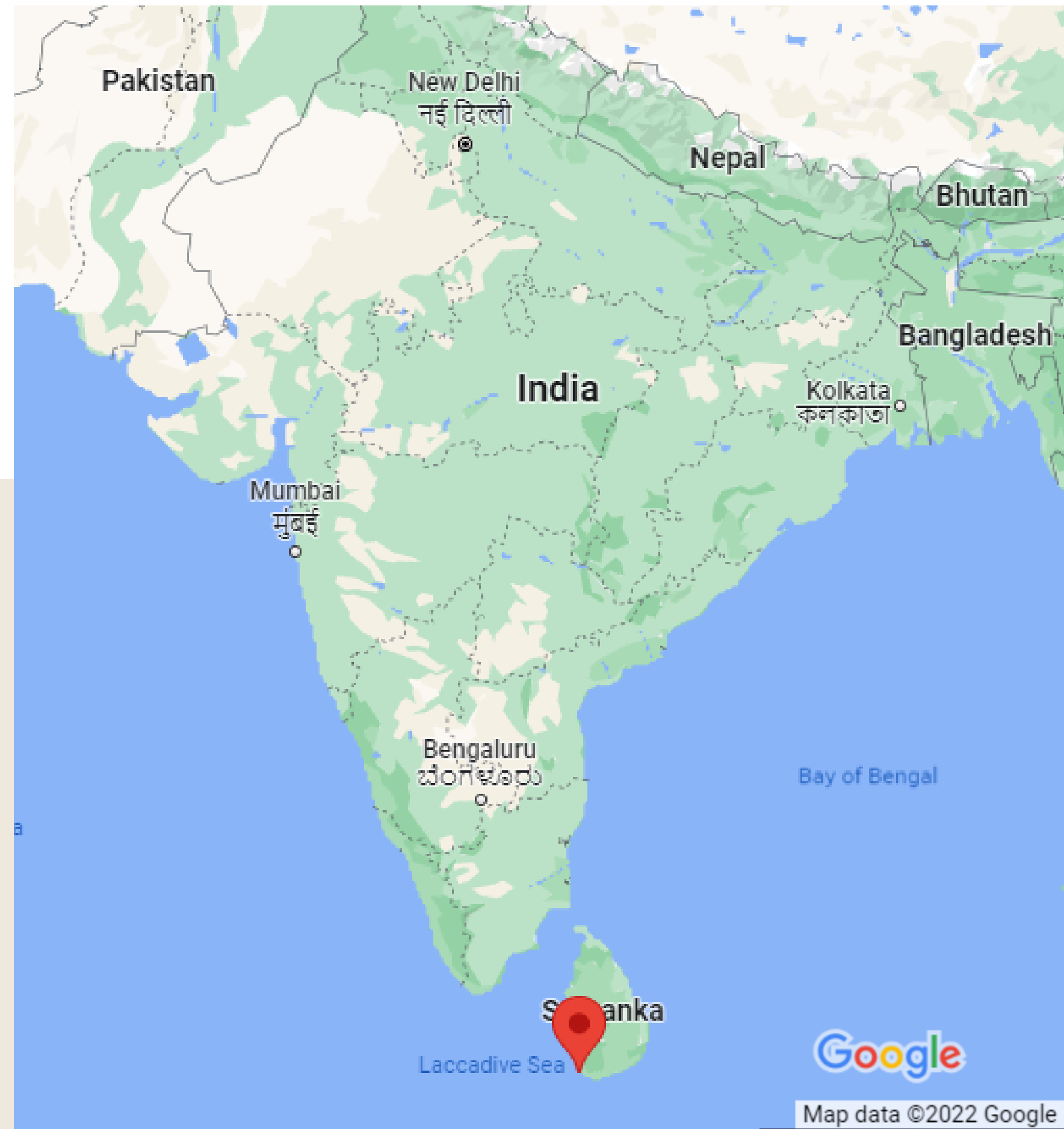
Moonstone



- Moonstone is a variety of the feldspar-group mineral orthoclase
- The Romans admired it, believing it was formed from moonbeams and associated moonstone with their lunar deities
- Mined from Meethiyagoda, Sri Lanka
- When light falls on the stone then the stone displays a phenomena which we called Adularescence



Meethiyagoda, Sri Lanka





Moonstone Facts

- Other countries mostly produce the white Moonstone variety while India produces the colored varieties like Rainbow moonstone and Blue moonstone
- Has been Florida's state gem since 1970
- When light falls between these thin, flat layers, it scatters in many directions, producing the phenomenon called adularescence
- Adularescence is the light that appears to billow across a gemstone, giving its surface a glowing appearance
- Adularescent moonstone was once called "adularia."
- Generally, higher transparency/colorless body and strong blue adularescence means higher value

Rainbow Moonstone



- It is transparent to translucent version of labradorite, a closely related feldspar mineral with sheen in a variety of iridescent
- Moonstone jewelry is most commonly made with rainbow moonstone though it is rarely noted as rainbow moonstone specifically
- It can range from a milky white to a marbled black and white pattern
- It is known for helping the wearer to develop a sense of compassion, understanding and empathy

Moonstone Cleaning and Care

Moonstone falls between 6 and 6.5 on the Mohs scale so it is softer and more prone to scratching or chipping

They are delicate and should be handled with care

Warm soapy water is the only recommended substance for cleaning moonstones.

Ultrasonic and steam cleaners are never recommended

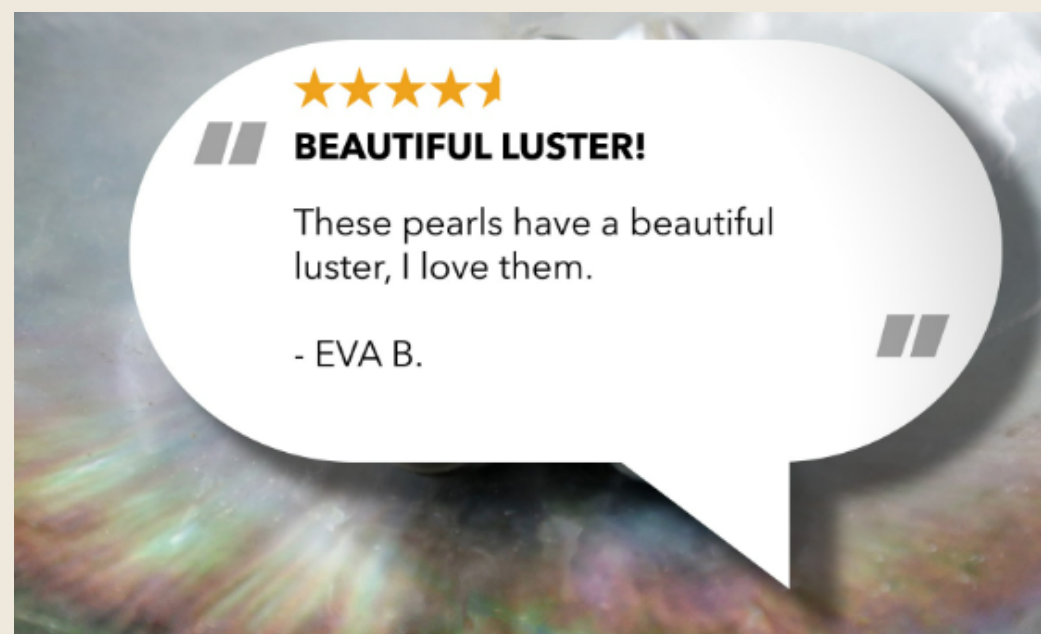
It has two cleavage directions, Cleavage can affect durability, so manufacturers usually set moonstone into pendants, earrings, and pins

Avoid high heat or sudden temperature change

It is stable to light but is harmed by exposure to hydrofluoric acid

Pearl

- The best-loved gems of all time, pearls—both natural and modern cultured pearls—occur in a wide variety of colors
- The main color, or bodycolor, is often modified by additional colors called overtones, which are typically pink (sometimes called rosé), green, purple, or blue
- It is ranked 2.5 on the Mohs hardness scale, which means it's very soft and easily scratched or abraded
- Pearls might be dyed, impregnated, or coated. These treatments might alter over time. Bleaching and irradiation can be stable during normal wear
- Cultured pearls are the pearls used to make almost all jewelry on the market today



Tahitian Pearl

- Exotic black pearls from the Pinctada Margaritifera or Black-lip pearl oyster, are more commonly known as Tahitian pearls
- These pearls are often referred to as black, but have a remarkable color range that covers the spectrum from light, creamy white and grey, to regal greens, iridescent peacock and deep black
- The beauty of Tahitian pearls, however, is not limited to their size, but their incredible array of iridescent color



Baroque Pearl

- The term 'baroque' finds its origins in the Portuguese word for 'imperfect' – 'barocco' in Portuguese
- The term was first used in relation to a pearl in a French dictionary from the end of the 17th century, describing a gem that is imperfect in shape (off-round)
- While baroque is the common term used to describe pearls that are not round, it is also one of the subtypes
- It includes pearls shaped like elongated spheres. They are asymmetrical and their surface is dented and uneven



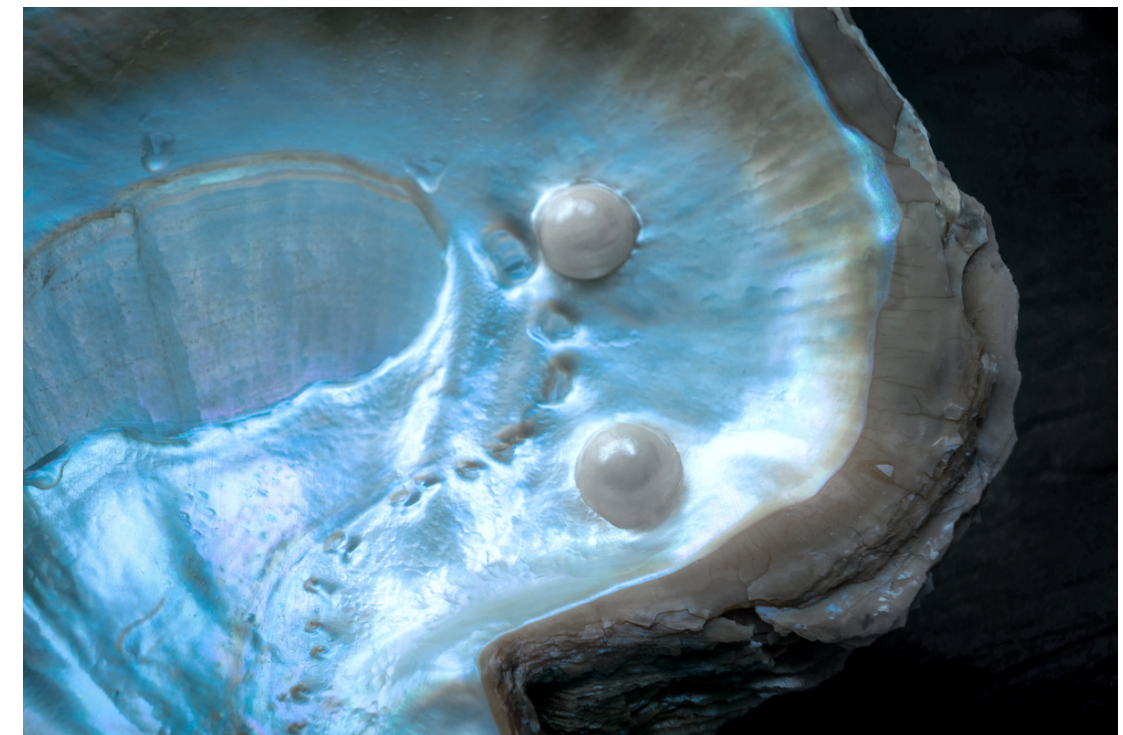
Freshwater Pearls

- Freshwater pearls are located in mussels found in natural lakes, artificial reservoirs, rivers, and man-made ponds
- Best known for their whimsical shape and variety of colors, the character of freshwater pearls is unparalleled
- There are six types of freshwater pearls: Biwa, Chinese, Mabe, Potato, Blister and Seed
- As round shapes are the exception and not the rule in freshwater, the pearls we offer are truly special



Saltwater Pearls

- Saltwater pearls form in saltwater after an irritant, such as a tiny bead, is inserted into the oyster shell by a pearl farmer
- Saltwater pearls are grown across Australia and Asia
- There are four main types of saltwater pearls: South Sea pearls, Tahitian pearls, Akoya pearls and Keshi pearls
- Saltwater pearls are usually considered more valuable than freshwater pearls



Pearl Cleaning and Care

High heat can burn cultured pearls or cause discoloration, splitting, or cracking

Pearl is generally stable to light, but heat from intense light can cause dehydration and cracks

Perfume, makeup and hairspray contain ingredients that can eat away the pearl, permanently dulling it

Chlorinated swimming pool water is also hazardous

Avoid wearing pearl jewelry when cleaning the house or doing yard work

It should never be cleaned in an ultrasonic or steam cleaner

The best way to clean your pearls is with a soft damp cloth, ideally after each time you wear them

If the pearls are strung, be sure the string is completely dry before wearing

New Alexandrite Merchandise



3552599



3687794



7012655



3727840



7023295



8933811



7433738



8946867

New Moonstone Merchandise



4109212



7013693



8934807



4184380



8941462



8934821



8941416



8934797



8934804



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New Pearl Merchandise



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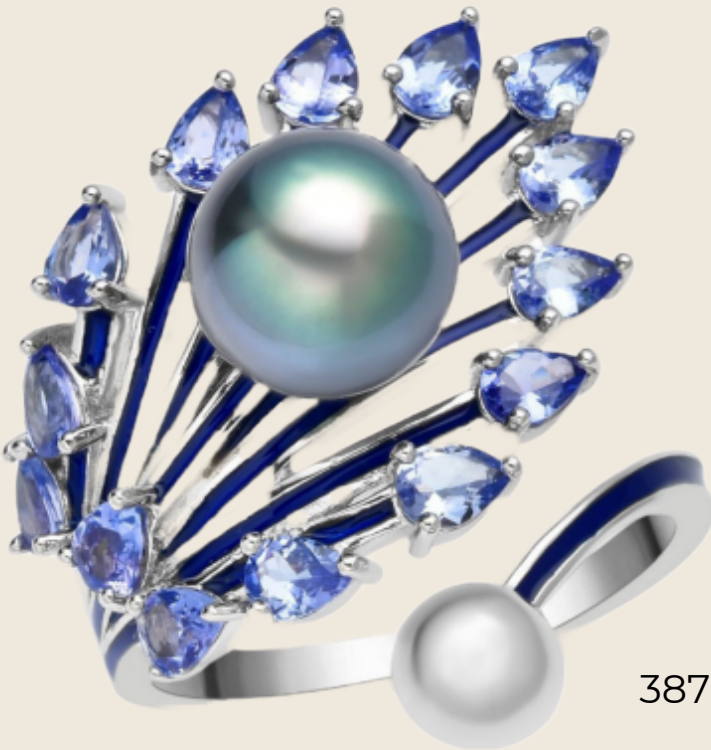


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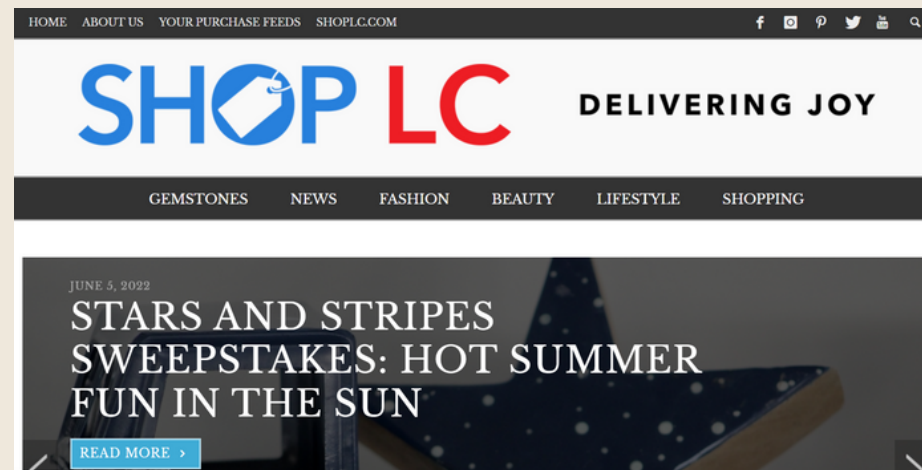
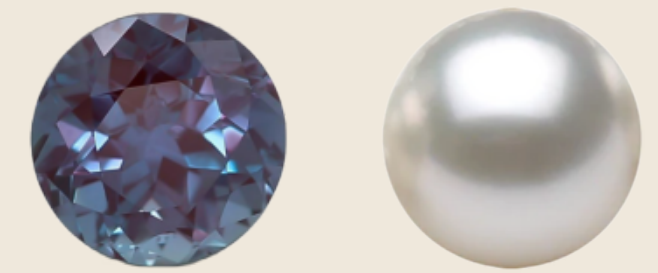
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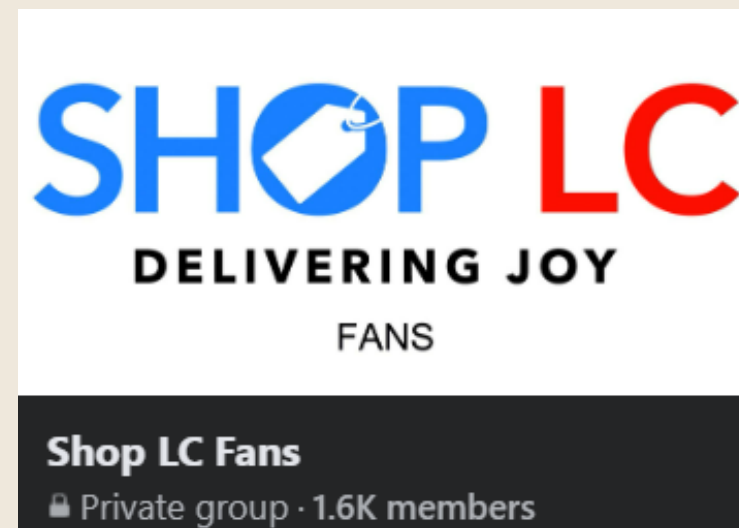
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Stay tuned for our next workshop in July for Color-Changing Gemstones!

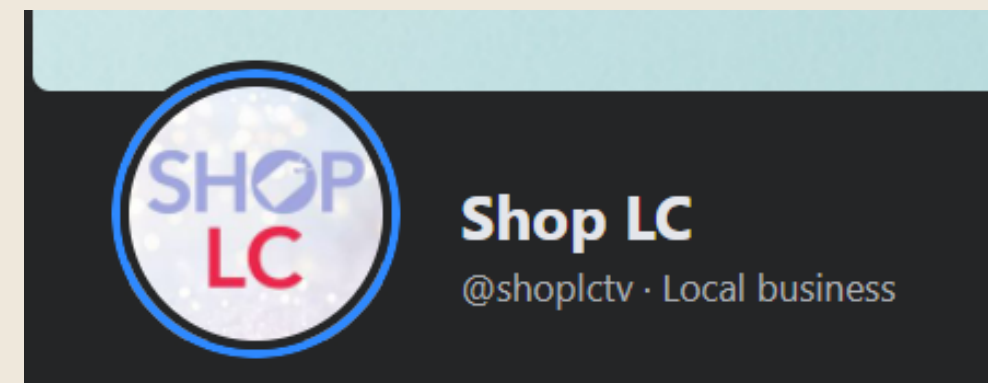
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