

**DIAMONDS
GEMS AND
JEWELLERY
FROM SRI LANKA**





Long associated with the international Gem and Jewellery trade, Sri Lanka is historically known as the cradle of treasurers for its precious, natural gemstones. Sri Lanka's age-old Gem and Jewellery Industry remains one of country's largest foreign exchange earners.

Today, Sri Lanka has made its mark in the international market and is known for quality gemstones and creating fine jewellery in a range of unique and exquisite designs. With this reputation, the industry is now geared to establish a world-class Gem and Jewellery hub in the country.

The industry employs approximately 600,000 individuals including miners, cutters and polishers, dealers, jewellery designers, manufacturers and craftsmen, marketers and sales people.

Sri Lanka has maintained presence, and won acclaim and reputation for quality and innovative designs at major international Gem & Jewellery shows.

Sri Lanka's own Gem and Jewellery Show – FACETS Sri Lanka – International Gem and Jewellery show is annually held during September in Colombo.





Sri Lanka's Competitive Advantages

1. Long history of gem cutting – artisan culture which still sustains itself,
2. An educated and trainable workforce,
3. The availability of a wide variety of precious and semi-precious gem stones,
4. A business friendly government, with minimum of formalities providing a wide array of tax incentives,
5. Duty free imports of raw materials,
6. Active member of International Coloured Gemstone Association (ICA),
7. ATA Carnet system in operation in Sri Lanka and the issuing authority is International Chamber of Commerce in Sri Lanka.
8. The country is a signatory to all United Nations and International Labour Organization conventions on Labour including those on Child Labour.

Gems

Sri Lanka is blessed with over 70 varieties of coloured stones out of the 200 found in the world and is among the five most important gem-bearing nations. The country's breath-taking natural heritage comprises of varieties of gem minerals, which includes Blue, Pink, Yellow And Golden Sapphires, Rubies, Padmaradchas, Star Sapphires, Star Rubies, Alexandrite, Cat's Eye, Spinel, Aquamarines, Topaz, Zircons, Garnets, Tourmalines, Moonstones, Quartz and a large number of rare gemstones.

Sri Lanka's major strength is the "Ceylon Sapphire".



Amongst the outstanding gemstones that Sri Lanka has produced in the contemporary era are the Blue Giant of the Orient (466 cts), Logan Blue Sapphire (423 cts), Blue Belle of Asia (400 cts), Rossar Reeves Star Ruby (138.7 cts), Star of Lanka (393 cts. Star Sapphire) and Ray of Treasure (105 cts. Cat's Eye). The first three gemstones are on display at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington DC, USA.

Sri Lanka's Gem Industry consists of free size and investment gemstones, calibrated gemstones, rare gemstones and gem cutting services. Abundance of gemstones are mined in Sri Lanka or imported freely into the country. International standards lapidaries coupled with a skilled workforce adds lustre to Sri Lanka's coloured gemstones making it the better alternative for calibrated and fancy cut gemstones, high-value single stones and quality service cutting.

Main Export Markets:

Hong-Kong, USA, Switzerland, Thailand, UAE, France, India and Germany



Jewellery

Over the centuries, Sri Lanka's jewellery makers have refined their hereditary skills to the top standards. Exquisite craftsmanship and sophisticated creativity, blended with the modern touch today receives the highest priority.

With the advantage of modern technology and a focus on design excellence, Sri Lanka is emerging as a design centre offering high quality jewellery collections of silver, gold and platinum. The increasingly segmented markets have made greater demand on the talented jewellery designers of Sri Lanka, who responds with a deeper understanding of the special needs of various markets, catering to a variety of sophisticated tastes.





For those anxious to retain only the finest and most authentic items, jewellery of Sri Lankan origin is independently verified and gemstones are authenticated by a government authority.

Jewellery is manufactured in 9 K, 14 K, 18 K gold, Platinum Sterling Silver or combination of 2 or more metals.

Main Export Markets:

Switzerland, United States, Hong Kong, Germany, UAE and Japan

Diamonds

Sri Lanka has earned a reputation for its high-quality cutting and polishing Diamonds, while country's specialty is small diamonds of exceptional high-quality, which are imported sawn or cleaved rough. In addition to the traditional brilliant cut, many cutting companies handle other specialised shapes and cuts, particularly tapers, baguettes and princes etc.

While most of the rough diamonds imported for processing are sawn or cleaved in Belgium; a few companies purchase rough diamonds in the open market, selling the cut and polished product through overseas affiliates. The industry in Sri Lanka is highly organised and the factories are equipped with modern equipment.





Sri Lanka is a member of the International Diamond Manufacturing Association and a signatory to the Kimberly Process Agreement.

Main Export Markets:

Belgium, Israel, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Switzerland, China, Hong Kong and India

