

**From:** Chris Wright <wrightsr@ipa.net>  
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**Subject:** Hourglass Amethyst

## Wrights Rock Shop

**Specimens of doubly terminated amethyst, that is zoned in a hourglass pattern, appeared for the first time in 2009 at the Sainte-Marie-Aux-Mines show. After intense searching, the source at Bou Oudi, Province de Tata, Morocco, was finally found. The limited supply of specimens are collected from a very small area of approximately 5 x 20 meters.**

**The amethyst does not follow a bed but is found along a fault. Since the crystals are loose in mudstone, no matrix specimens have been located . The mudstone is friable and usually cracked (as is most of the amethyst).**

**The unusual hourglass in the amethyst is formed by preferential zoning of iron that is only in the rhombohedral sectors of the crystals. Needles of red are found in some crystals that are probably hematite. The crystals are flattened with one surface having a sugar like appearance.**

**Less than 5% of the crystals are doubly terminated with most crystals from 3 to 4 cm.**

**The specimens are much better than the photos.**

**CHRIS**  
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