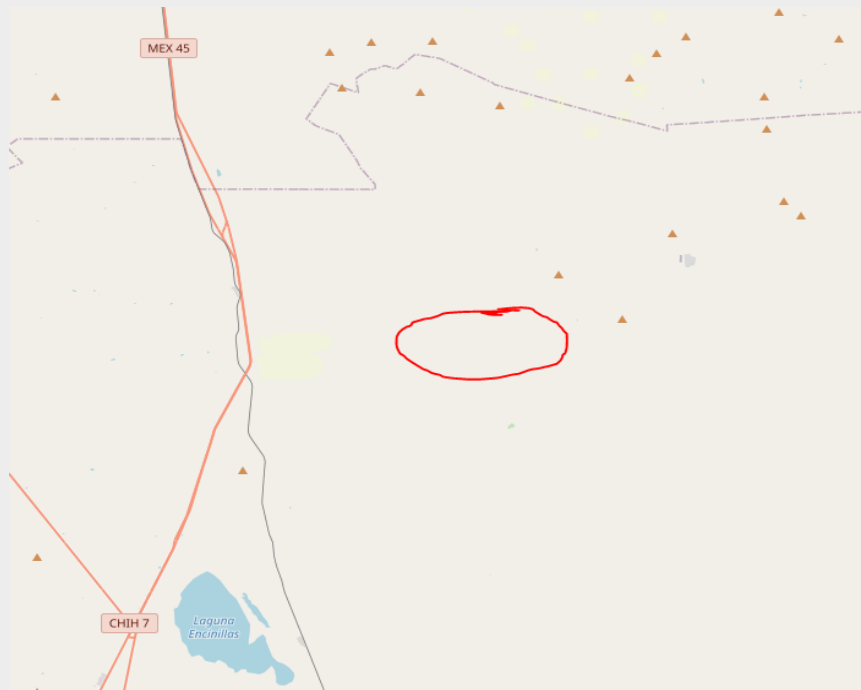


Las Choyas, Cerro Mesteño, Chihuahua



© OpenStreetMap-Mitwirkende

Im Bundesstaat Chihuahua gibt es eine Reihe von Geoden-Fundstellen. Die wohl berühmteste und reichhaltigste Lagerstätte ist unter dem Namen Las Choyas bekannt und liegt in der Cerro Mesteño, etwa 35 km nordöstlich von Laguna Enciñillas. Verschiedene Claims wie El San Antonio, La Antimosa, La Morenita, La Otra Estrella, La Paty oder El Mesteño wurden auf dem etwa 5 km² großen Fundareal betrieben und lieferten in den besten Abbauzeiten bis zu 35 t Rohsteine pro Jahr. Die Geoden treten oft als kokosnussähnliche Kugeln in einem alterierten und stark verfestigten Aschetuff auf. Sie werden mühsam in Schächten per Hand abgebaut. Für den Handel sind vor allem hohle Geoden mit verschiedenen Kristallen (häufig Quarz, Amethyst, Calcit, seltener auch Gips, Hämatit, Goethit, Todorokit, Apatit etc.) besonders interessant. Oft werden die Geoden erst auf Mineralienschauen vor Publikum aufgebrochen. Mit Achat gefüllte, volle Kugeln landeten bisher meist auf Halde, obwohl durchaus auch ansprechend gebänderte Achate, meist in weißgrauen und gelben Farbschattierungen, vorkommen.

There are several geode deposits in the state of Chihuahua. Probably the most famous and richest deposit is known as Las Choyas and is located in the Cerro Mesteño, about 20 mls northeast of Laguna Enciñillas. Various claims such as El San Antonio, La Antimosa, La Morenita, La Otra Estrella, La Paty or El Mesteño were operated on an approximately 5 mls² area and produced up to 35 t of rough stones per year in it's heydays. The geodes often occur as coconut-like spheres in an altered and heavily consolidated tuff ash. They are laboriously mined by hand in shafts. Hollow geodes with various crystals (often quartz, amethyst, calcite, more rarely gypsum, hematite, goethite, todorokite, apatite, etc.) are of particular interest for the business. They are often cracked directly in front of an audience at mineral shows. So far, agate-filled, full balls have mostly ended up on heaps, although attractively banded agates, mostly in white-grey and yellow shades also occur.



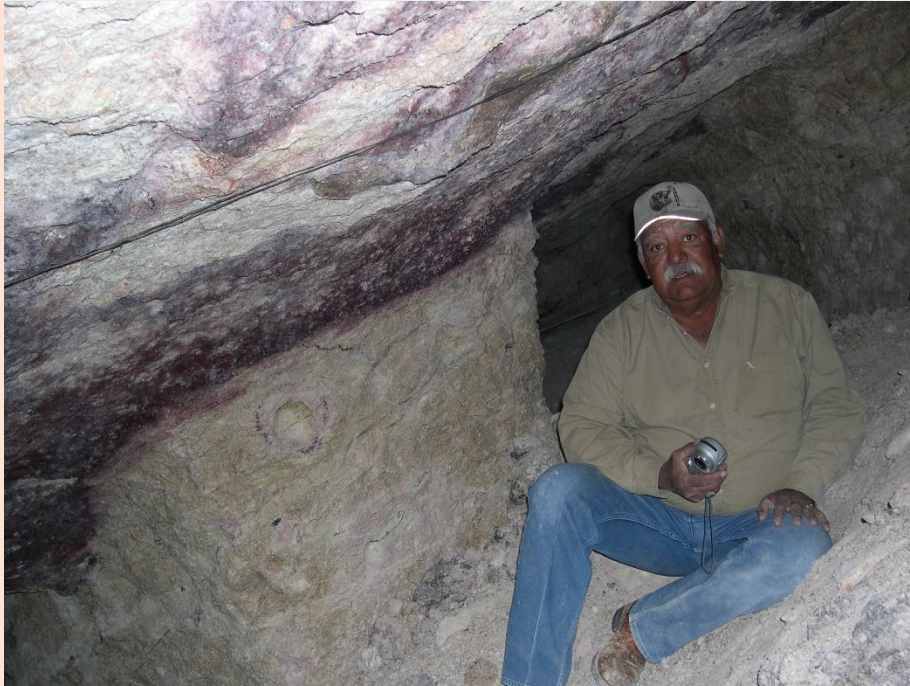
Brad L. Cross photos.



Brad L. Cross photos.



Brad L. Cross photos.



Minenbesitzer / Mine Owner Hector Carrillo. Brad L. Cross photo.



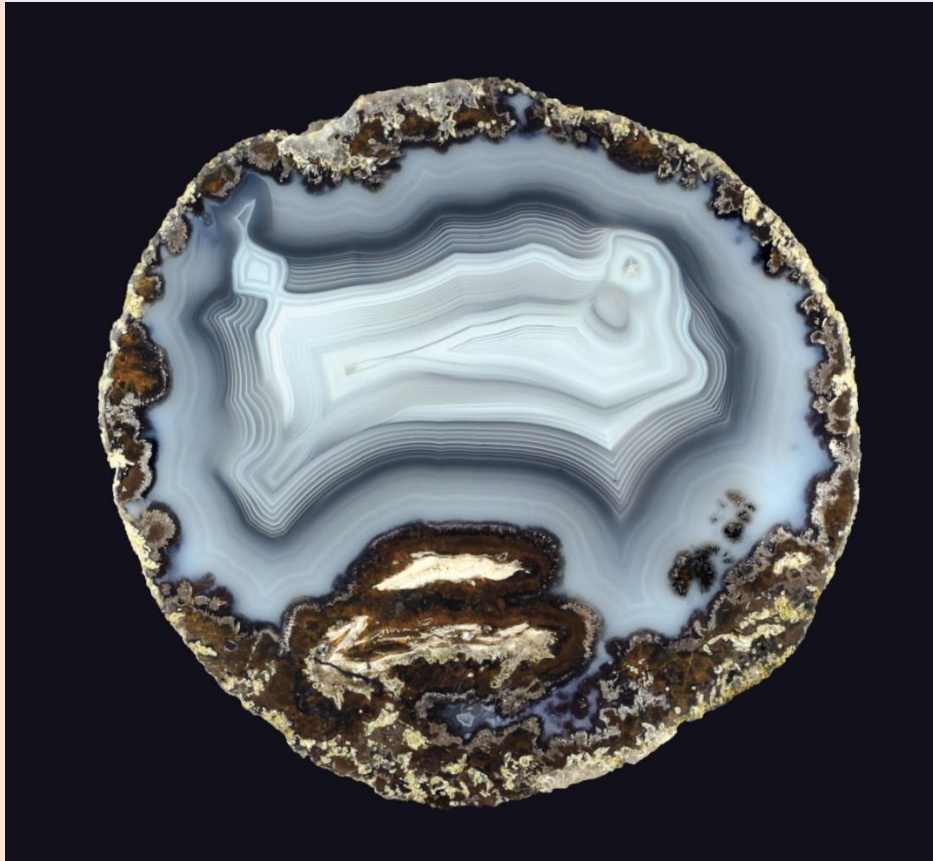
Brad L. Cross photo.



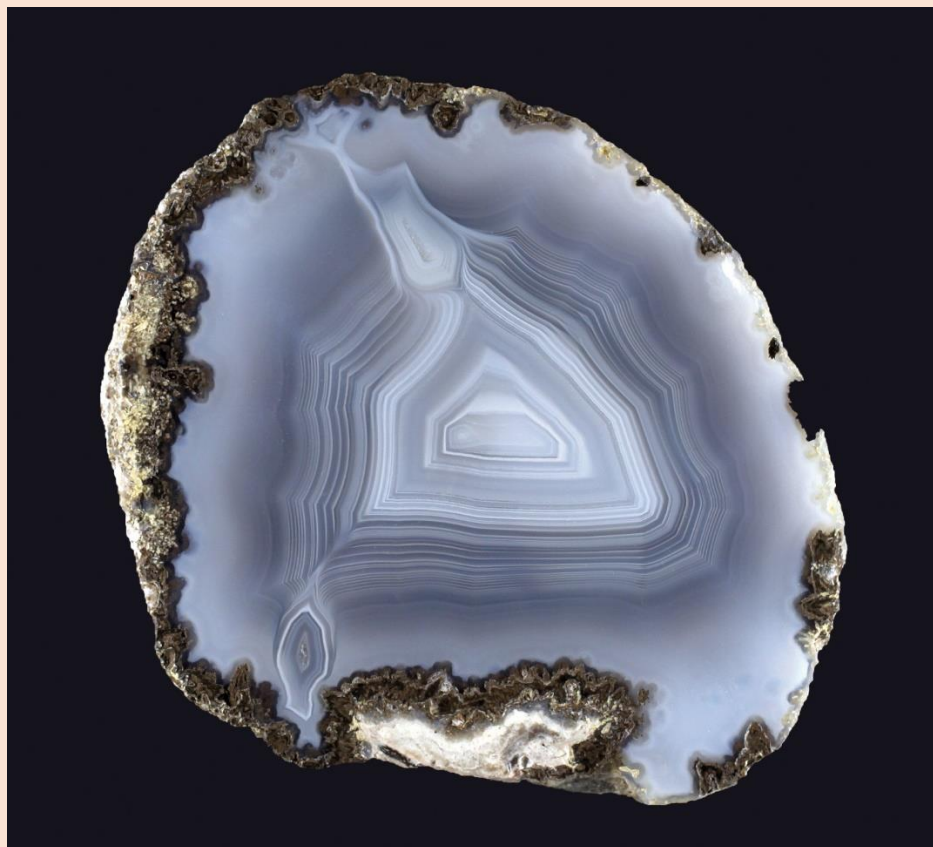
Je 8.5 cm / 8.5 cm each. Doug Moore collection & photo.



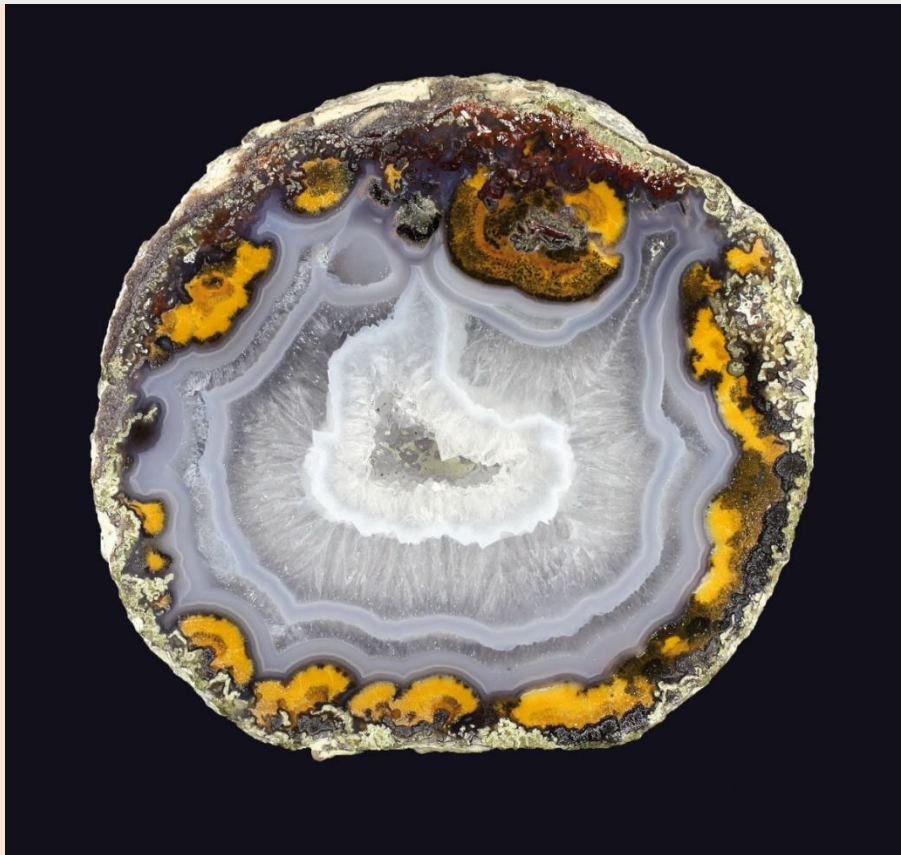
Achatpaar vom Bild oben unter kurzwelligem UV-Licht /
Agate pair from above under shortwave UV light.
Doug Moore collection & photo.



11.6 cm. Dietrich Mayer collection. Andreas Wawra photo.



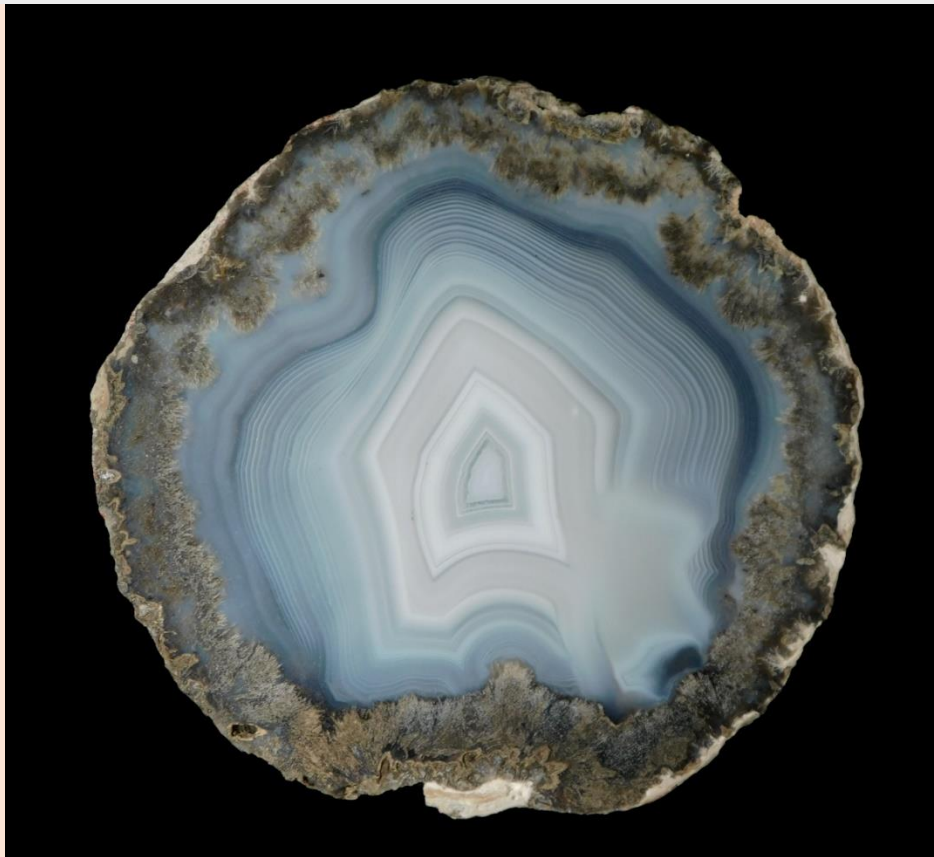
8.5 cm. Dietrich Mayer collection. Andreas Wawra photo.



9.1 cm. Dietrich Mayer collection. Andreas Wawra photo.



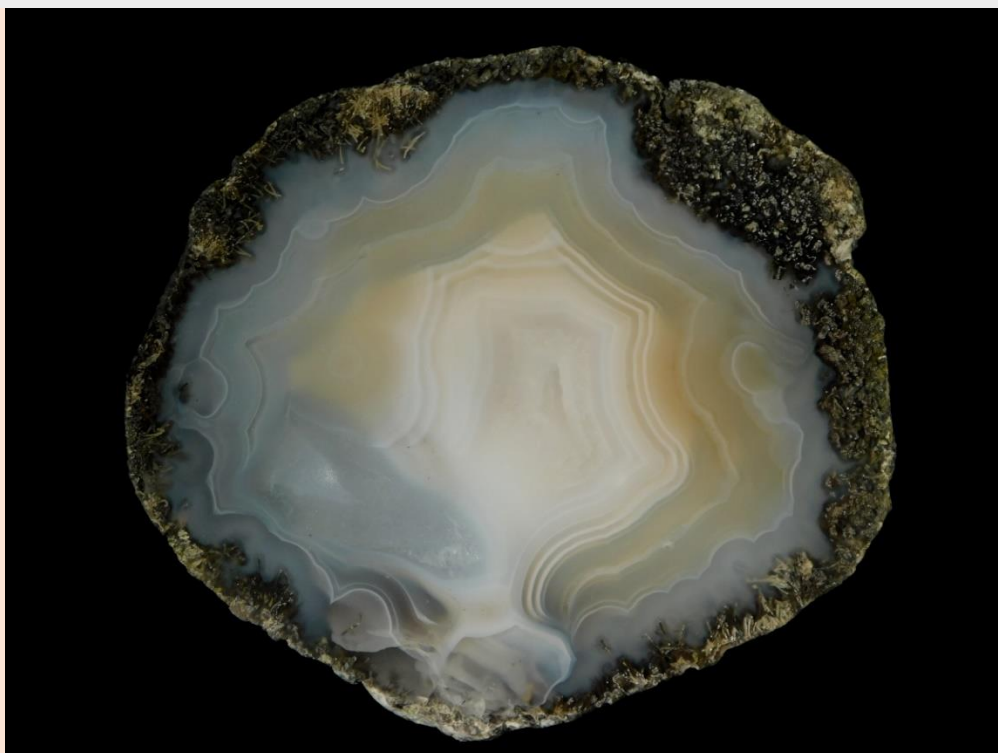
9.1 cm. Dietrich Mayer collection. Andreas Wawra photo.



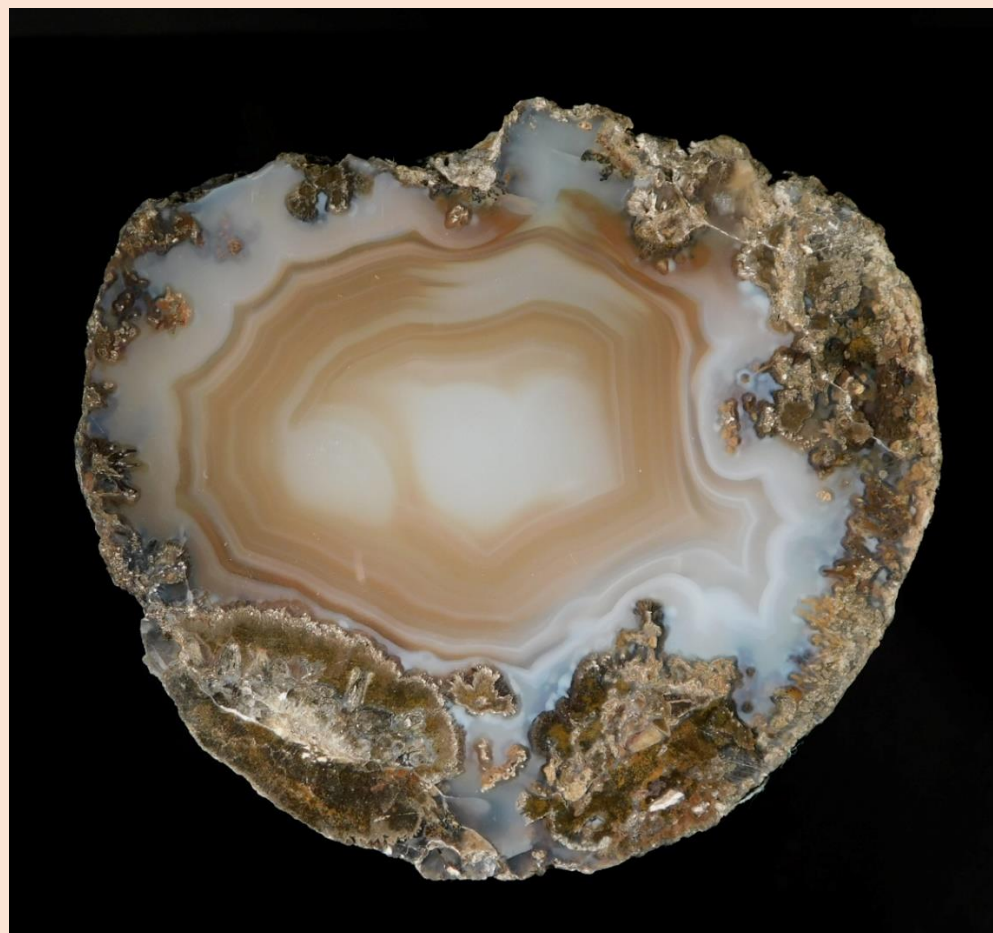
10.5 cm. Johann Zenz collection & photo.



8.6 cm. Johann Zenz collection & photo.



8.5 cm. Johann Zenz collection & photo.



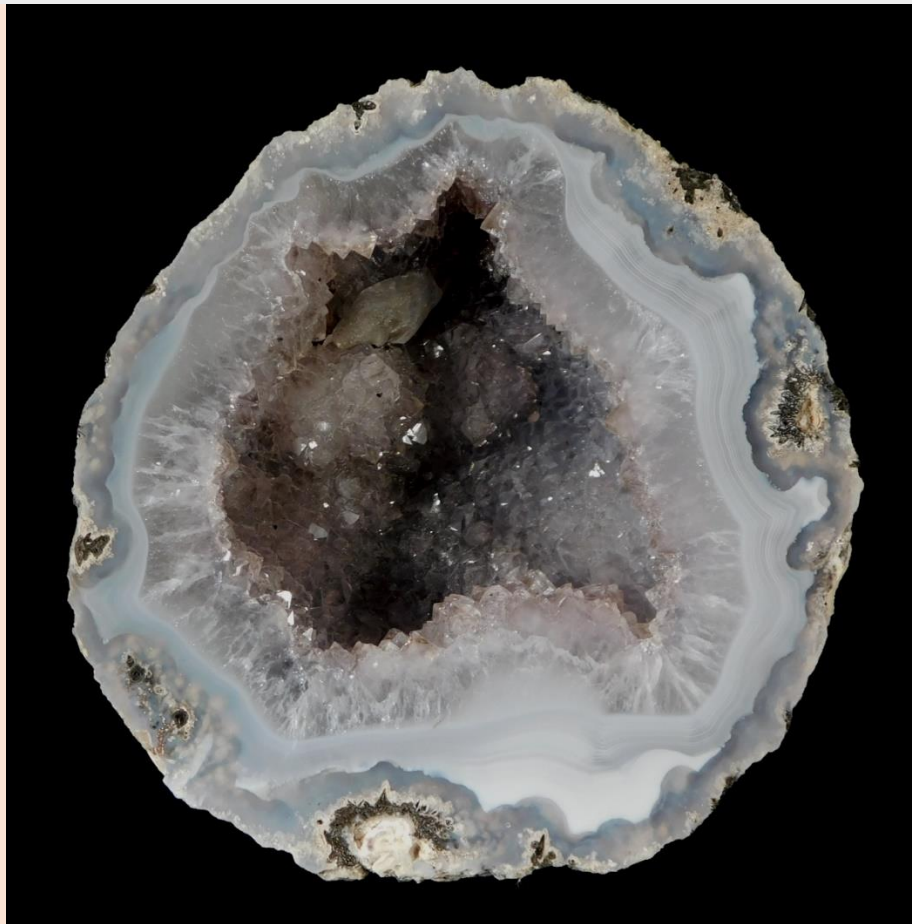
9 cm. Johann Zenz collection & photo.



10.5 cm. Johann Zenz collection & photo.



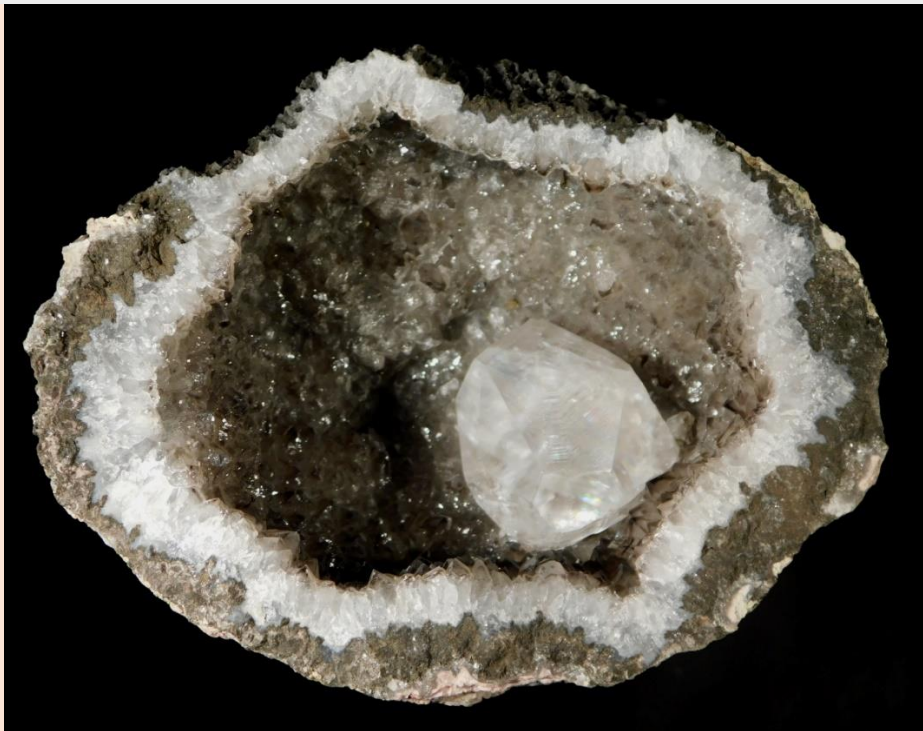
8.6 cm. Johann Zenz collection & photo.



Amethyst. Calcite. 8.5 cm. Johann Zenz collection & photo.



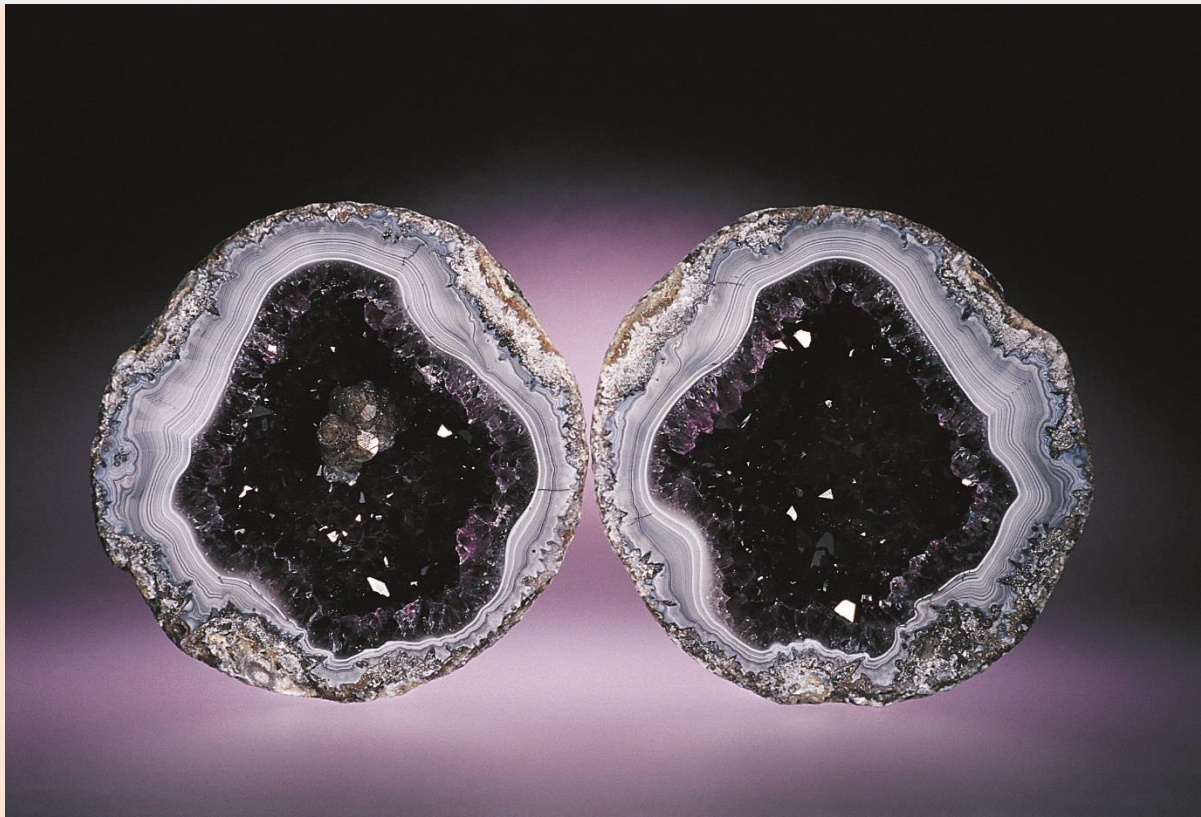
Rauchquarz / Smoky Quartz. Calcite. 14.5 cm. Dietrich Mayer collection & photo.



Rauchquarz / Smoky Quartz. Calcite. 11 cm. Johann Zenz collection & photo.



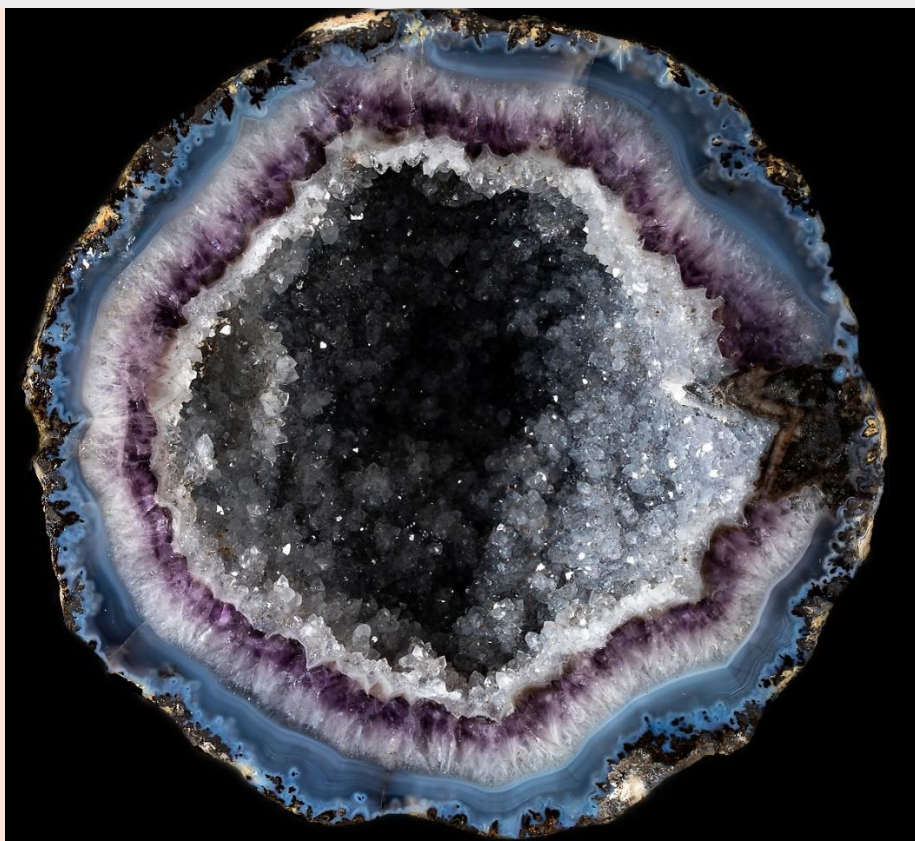
Amethyst. Calcite. 10 cm. Brad Cross collection & photo.



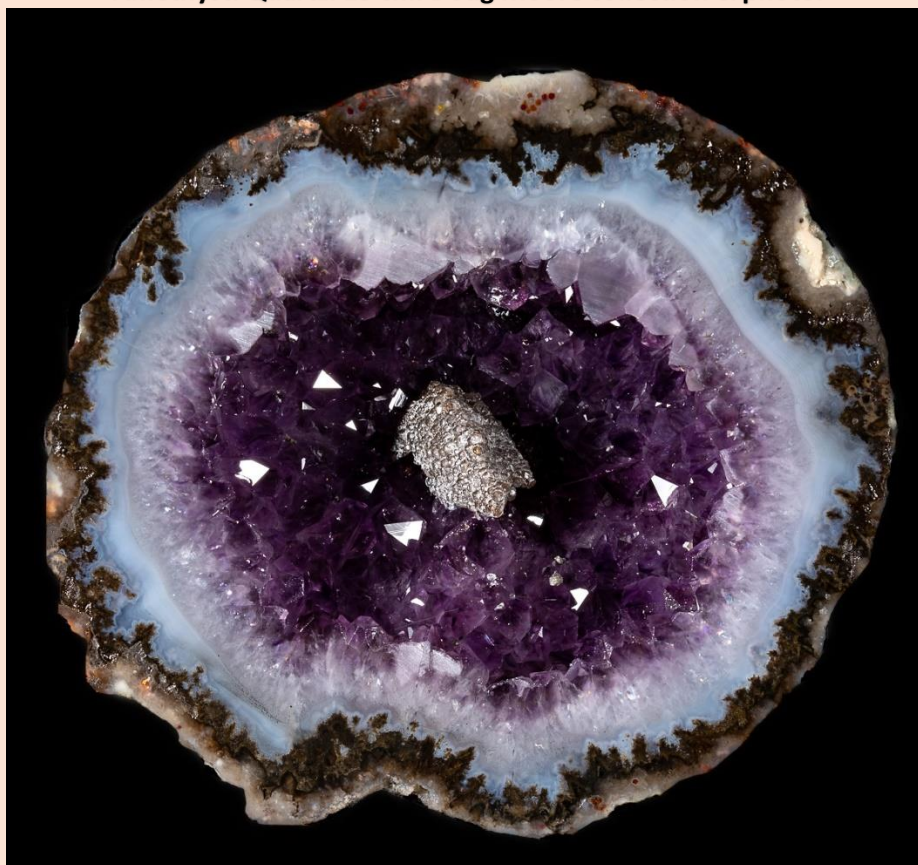
Amethyst. Calcite. Je 9.5 cm / each. Brad Cross collection & photo.



Amethyst. Calcite. Je 10 cm / each. Brad Cross collection & photo.



Amethyst. Quartz. 13 cm. Doug Moore collection & photo.



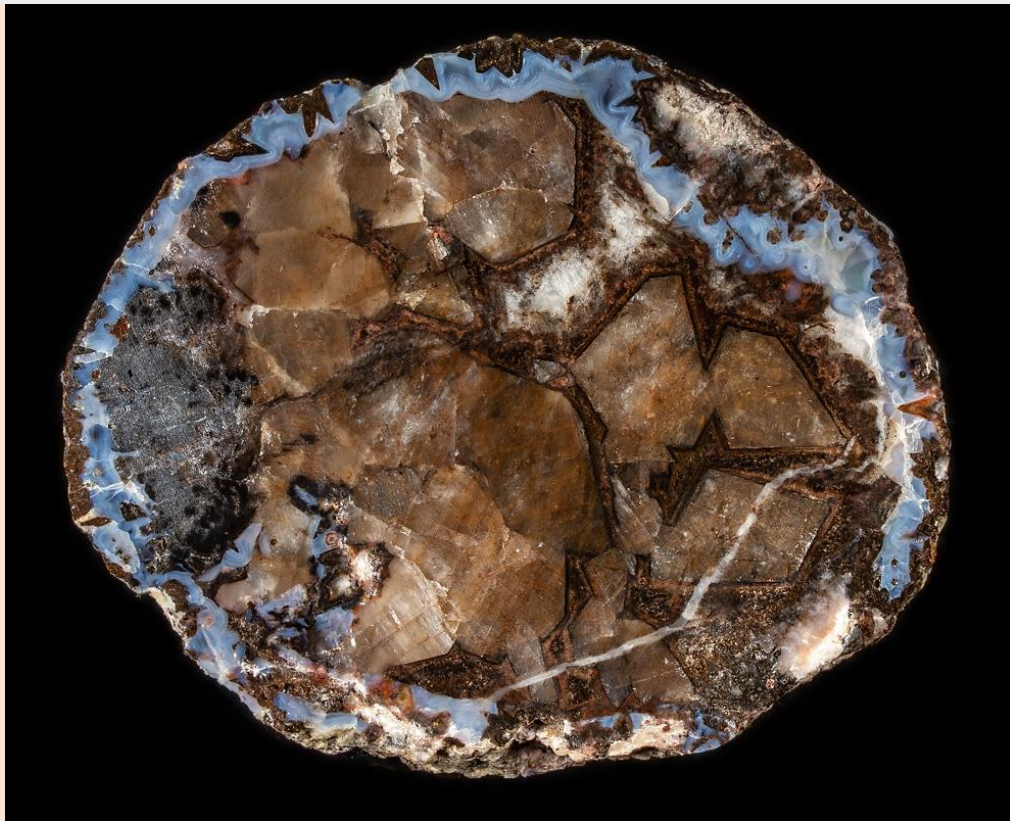
Amethyst. Calcite. 11 cm. Doug Moore collection & photo.



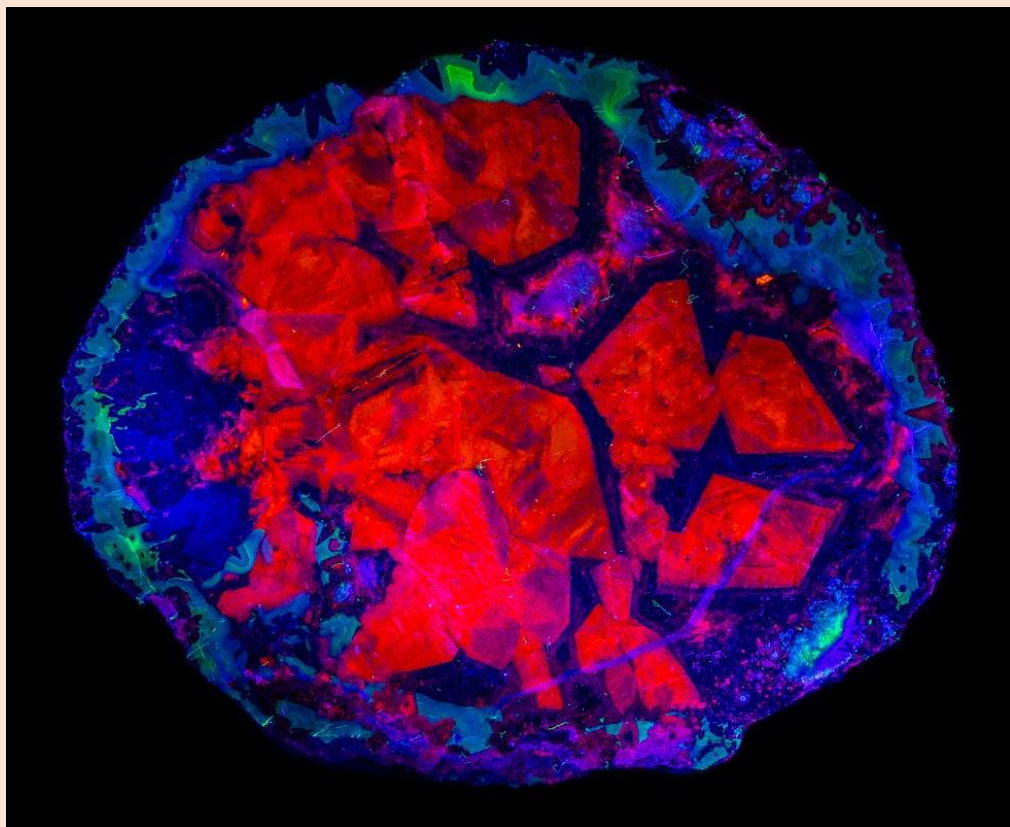
Nadelige Einschlüsse / Inclusions. "Sagenite Agate". 10 cm. Doug Moore collection & photo.



Calcit / Calcite. 14 cm. Doug Moore collection & photo.



Calcitfüllung / Calcite filling. 10.5 cm. Doug Moore collection & photo.



**Stück von oben unter kurzwelligem UV-Licht / Specimen from above under shortwave UV light.
Doug Moore collection & photo.**



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