

## BERYL

We have already discussed some of the beryllium gems, namely emerald and aquamarine, but we should also mention the lesser-known members of the same family.

**Green Beryl**, without the chromium that makes it emerald, is common and, because of its colour, is not particularly attractive. However, it is used in doublets and triplets to simulate emerald.



*Yellow Cat's-eye Beryl.*  
(Photo: ATG/LAB)



*Yellow Beryl (Trilliant).*  
(Photo: ATG/LAB)

**Heliodor** or **yellow beryls**, with shades varying from pale to rich gold, are found in the same locations as aquamarine. As with the latter it is often free of inclusions.

**Morganite** is a pink variety named after the American banker and philanthropist Henry Pierpoint Morgan. It comes in shades of rose and peach as well as pink.

Morganite is mainly translucent; cat's-eye varieties have been found. It is generally pale, though dark shades from Madagascar (formerly the Malagasy Republic) and Afghanistan may show dichroism. Its other main source is the USA. Synthetic transparent pink beryls are now grown in Russia.



*Morganite.* (Photo: KW)

**Red Beryl** or **Bixbite** in good gem quality is very rare and, as such, remains a collector's item. It is sometimes misleadingly referred to as 'red emerald'.



*Red Beryl 4.66 cts.* (Photo: AH)

A deeper blue of beryl, darker than aquamarine, has been recently discovered in Canada. A colourless variety (Goshenite) is also found.