
CONTENS

THE MYSTERIOUS WORLD OF MOLDAVITE	9
WHAT ARE TEKTITES?	11
Division of Tektites	13
Shapes of Tektites	17
MOLDAVITE	19
Origin of Moldavite	20
Shape and Texture	22
Internal Tension	25
Structure and Inclusions	26
Synthetic and Natural Moldavite	30
MOLDAVITE DEPOSITS.	39
South Bohemian Deposits	42
West Bohemian Deposits	96
Moravian Deposits	98
LEGAL AND ILLEGAL MOLDAVITE MINING	114
MOLDAVITE AS A PRECIOUS STONE.	117
Assessing the Quality and Establishing the Price	124
Esoteric Effects	128
SIGNIFICANT COLLECTIONS OF MOLDAVITE	133
REFERENCES	134



Acknowledgements

This book about Moldavite could not have been published if it were not for the cooperation of many people. We would especially like to thank Mr. Milan Prchal, who has devoted over fifty years to Moldavite and remembers the beginnings of collecting, or the “golden age”, when it was possible to find Moldavite in large numbers, quietly and uneventfully. We would also like to thank RNDr. Roman Skála, Ph.D. for the opportunity to consult the initial chapters with him.

The pictorial part was only made thanks to the willingness of collectors who kindly let us take photographs of their collections and shared their knowledge and experience with us.

The Moldavite from South Bohemia in the pictures are from Přemysl Dušek’s collection. He has also devised a system for appreciating Moldavite, which is published for the very first time in this book. The other stones are from collections belonging to Aleš Grabmüller, František Tůma, Martin Wichterle, Jan Mandík, Přemysl Bureš, Michal Vašíček, Karel Valter, Karel Mařík and others.

The chapter about West Bohemia Moldavite would not have been written without the help of Miroslav Čada. The Moldavite from Germany was kindly provided for photographing purposes by Pharm-Dr. Jan Krška. The vast majority of the Moravian Moldavite is from the collection belonging to MUDr. Jaromír Šilhavý. The photographs of Moldavite in the mother rock (in matrix) were submitted by Ing. Jan Kynický from Topminerals. We would like to thank the Moldavite Museum in Český Krumlov and the Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague for providing us with photographs of specimens from their collections. We would also thank NASA, Rieskrater Museum in Nordlingen, Bavaria for their kind permission to reproduce their pictures.

Lastly, we would like to thank the Mineral – Milan & Eva Purkart and Granát, d. u. v. Turnov companies for their support in publishing this book.

