



Landscape agate. (Photo: KW)

Other popular agates are 'moss agate', with inclusions that resemble plants, and 'landscape agate', where the inclusions give the appearance of a pictorial view of buildings.

Bloodstone or *Heliotrope* is an opaque dark green with splashes of red jasper. It got its name from the belief that it was the stone from below the cross of Christ, whose blood dropped upon it. NB: In Germany, 'Blutstein' [literally: blood-stone] is the name for hematite.



Bloodstone (*Heliotrope*).
(Photo: KW)

Carnelian or *cornelian* is a red form of chalcedony popular, among other things, for intaglio seals set into signet rings.



Carnelian. (Photo: KW)

Chrome chalcedony is another prized green variety, coloured by chromium and showing red under the Chelsea Filter. Dyed material shows as a weak brownish red. Main sources are Bolivia and Zimbabwe.



Owyhee Picture Jasper. (Photo: ATG)

Jasper is an opaque form of micro-crystalline (a compact mass of minute crystals) quartz that is strongly coloured by other minerals, mainly iron. Red, yellow, brown and green are fairly common; bright reds and green are prized and used for inlay and carvings. It has many varieties and it is found worldwide.



Blue lace.
(Photo: KW)

Tiger's eye – this is an attractive golden-brown opaque stone displaying a cat's eye effect. The effect is caused by asbestos inclusions. A blue variety is known as 'Hawk's-eye'.

Synthetic quartz is now available in a range of colours, particularly blue.



Tiger's eye. (Photo: KW)