



2017 Quartzsite Shows

A perspective by Mark Nelson, Pasadena Lapidary Society

At the risk of sounding dramatic, a visit to the Quartzsite Shows should be on every rock and gem enthusiast's "bucket list". You can't accurately compare it with any other rock and gem show you've been to. It's a small desert gas stop that is transformed almost overnight! People come from all over the world with shipping crates and 55 gallon drums of amethysts, jaspers, fossils, and many other lapidary items. Also available are Moroccan fossils, swap meet items, tools, camping and RV's and their parts and supplies, LED lights and bulbs, custom signs, crafts, lapidary equipment (new and used), food, drink, entertainment with swap meets. You've got to go.

The Main Event:

The Main Event has had an annual show here since Quartzsite's shows began in the early 1980's. A beautiful food court with a stage for daily entertainment and a fun environment. Large restroom trailer. Some rocks, gems and minerals. Mostly known now for imported goods and antiques. On the west side of the Main Event are two wholesale tool buildings, similar to Harbor Freight.

Main Street Traders Swap Meet:

Shops on Main Street open all year round. Variety of vendors with collectibles, jewelry, beads & supplies, rocks, new items and food court. 9 a.m. to 5 a.m. daily. Location: 1170 Main Street across from the Pilot and McDonalds.

Hi Ali Swap Meet:

Lots of antiques and collectibles and "good junk" to dig through. Also some rocks and new items like palm leaf hats.

Prospectors Panorama:

Lots of Gems & Minerals, Jewelry & More plus a Beer Garden and Food. Highlights include the best prices on small pieces of amethyst, fossils from Morocco, wholesale rocks at the El Paso Rock Company.

Desert Gardens:

The Largest Rock, Gem and Mineral Show in Quartzsite! Mostly collectors-to-collectors. Wholesale prices on rough rocks. Vendors from around the world selling thousands of rocks, fossils, gems and minerals to daily visitors, wholesalers, and among each other. Desert Gardens offers free parking, free admission, a food court, and ample public restrooms.

Rice Ranch Y'All Come Show:

New items and collectibles with food vendors.

Tyson Wells:

Probably the most varied of all the shows. Many vendors and a huge variety of items, including tools, RV supplies, gems, jewelry, crafts, beads & supplies and more.

QIA Pow Wow Rock & Mineral Show:

This annual Show has vendors coming from all over the world. They have over 520 vendor display areas inside & outside the building. All the merchandise displayed by vendors must be 75% gem, mineral or jewelry related. Free Admission and Free Parking with 2 Shuttle Buses running all day to help get people from their cars to the Vendors. There are 2 ATM's on-site and a cafeteria area. Mostly items from other collectors and artisans. All gems and minerals including supplies and items made from them. Be sure to visit the Abalone King and Dyer Wyer!

Big Tent Sports, Vacation & RV Show:

Recreational vehicles and accessories.

Greasewood Swap Meet:

Folks coming in to sell out of the back of their cars, along with craftsmen making signs and other items. Some good bargains to be had!

Quartzsite Show Dates:

Quartzsite Market Place Street Fair - Oct. 31, 2016 - March 1, 2017

Tyson Wells Market Center Swap Meet - Oct 01, 2016 -March 31, 2017

Rice Ranch "Yawl Come" Show - November 1, 2016 - April 1, 2017

Grease Wood Swap Meet - November 2016 - April, 2017

Desert Gardens - Gem & Mineral Show - January 01 - February 28, 2017

Prospectors Panorama - January 02 - January 15, 2017

QIA Pow Wow - Gems, minerals & jewelry - January 18 - January 22, 2017

Tyson Wells Rock & Gem Show - January 06 - January 15, 2017

Tyson Wells Sell-A-Rama - January 20 - January 29, 2017

Sports, Vacation & RV Show (The Big Tent) - January 21 - January 29, 2017

Tyson Wells Arts and Crafts - February 03 - February 12, 2017

Gold, Treasure & Craft Show - QIA 9 am - 5 pm - February 10 - 12, 2017

Quartzsite Quilt Show - Quartzsite SR Center - February 3 - 4, 2017

Quartzsite Gold Show - February 10-12, 2017 QIA building. Friday - Saturday 9-4 Sunday.

Read more: <http://www.desertusa.com/cities/az/quartzsite.html>

