



## Nephrite Jade

This striking stone is also known as Greenstone or 'Pounamu' in New Zealand.

The general term **Jade** is applied to two metamorphic rocks that are made up of slightly different silicate minerals.

Nephrite Jade possesses mainly grays and greens (and occasionally yellows, browns or whites).



Jadeite Jade, which is rarer and harder, can be bright translucent green. The highest quality of Jadeite is found in Burma. The Chinese Jade carvings dating back to the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC consisted of brown or white Jade known as Mutton Fat Jade.



Canada is one of the world's biggest exporters of Nephrite Jade. They sell mainly to China for carving and New Zealand. The Crystal Caves sources its Jade from the rugged mountains of Northern British Columbia in Canada, 110 miles east of Juneau, Alaska. Due to extreme weather conditions, it can only be mined in the summer.