DELTA RIDGE TECHNOLOGIES

Diamond Hunting at Crater of Diamonds

The only public diamond field in America, and how to search it

HOW THE FIELD WORKS



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Crater of Diamonds State Park at Murfreesboro is the only diamond-bearing site in the United States that the public can dig, and the rule is simple: finders keepers.

WHAT IT IS

The search area is a plowed surface of about thirty seven acres, sitting on the eroded throat of an ancient lamproite volcano. Diamonds came up with that rock and have been weathering out of it ever since, so the search is a surface search and not a mining operation. The park plows the field from time to time to turn up fresh material, and rain helps more than any tool does, because it washes the dirt off a stone and leaves it sitting proud.

WHAT YOU MAY DO

ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
Hand tools: trowels, small shovels, buckets, screens	Battery or motor powered equipment of any kind
Surface searching and shallow digging in the plowed soil	Digging into the field walls and berms
Keeping every diamond or gemstone you find	Metal detectors, and any mechanically sifting tool
Renting screens and buckets on site	Commercial collecting
Bringing your own hand tools	Digging outside the plowed area

SAMPLE

> Fees, hours and rules change. Confirm them with the park before you drive, and check for heat advisories in summer. This guide describes how the search works, not the current price list.

THE HONEST EXPECTATION

Most finds are small and most days produce nothing worth framing. People who find diamonds are usually people who searched longer and more systematically than the visitors beside them. Build the trip so the day is worth having whether or not a diamond comes home.



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