

Cripple Creek and Victor Open-Pit Gold Mine Tour



Registration for this trip includes box lunch, water, snacks, transportation, and entrance fee

The Cripple Creek mining district is a world-class mining district located 20 miles west of Colorado Springs, Colorado. As described by Newmont, "Newmont's Cripple Creek & Victor Mine (CC&V) is located in Teller County, Colorado, southwest of Pikes Peak. CC&V was formed as an operating company for mining operations in 1976, with mining in its Cresson Project starting in 1995. CC&V's modern, high-tech operations allow for responsible surface mining of various ore types. The majority of the ore is processed in a zero-discharge, valley-type, leach pad to recover gold and silver. In 2015 CC&V commissioned a rod, ball, and flotation mill which processes CC&V's higher grade, non-oxidized ore."

Annual production of gold is 396,000 ounces. Mineralization is hosted in a Tertiary-aged alkaline volcanic/diatreme complex. Country rocks surrounding the volcanic diatreme are composed of Precambrian granites and metamorphic units. Gold mineralization within the Cripple Creek district occurs in two principal styles: as broad zones of disseminated, low-grade, gold-pyrite and telluride mineralization and as fracture zones containing high-grade, gold-silver tellurides. Regional and district geology will be discussed during the field trip.

This trip will have moderate physical walking activity. Standard field protection equipment: safety shoes/boots, protective eyewear, hard hat, gloves, safety vest. The mine will have extras if needed, but feel free to bring your own.