



This is too expensive for me...

The glittering gold is usually mined by children: at least 300.000 children, even as young as 5 years old, work 8-10 hrs per day all over the world instead of attending school.



Say no to child labour by fairtrade ring as Kate and William did.



STOP MAD MINING

stop-mad-mining.org

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FAIRTRADE STANDARDS FOR GOLD

The Standards ensure that the Fairtrade gold has been extracted, processed and traded in a fair and responsible manner. This means:

Strengthened miners organizations
- Miners have the opportunity to empower themselves through their organization. They form groups to give themselves better bargaining power with traders, to get a fairer return for their produce, and gain greater control over the jewellery supply chain.

Improved working conditions
- Fairtrade certification requires mandatory use of protective gear and health and safety training for all miners.

Freedom of association and collective bargaining
- Certified miners' organizations must recognise the right of all workers to establish and join trade unions and collectively negotiate their working conditions.

Responsible use of chemicals
- Certified miners must use safe and responsible practices for management of toxic chemicals in gold recovery, such as mercury and cyanide. Chemicals have to be reduced to a minimum, and where possible eliminated over an agreed time period.

Fair trade is proud of working together with small-scale mining organizations in Latin America and East-Africa. Currently 2 organizations have Fair Trade certificate, namely AURELSA and SOTRAMI, both in Peru. Fair Trade works also together with 9 groups in Uganda, Kenya and Tansania.



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Fair Trade certified gold is higher only by 10%. In case of Fair Trade gold miners get a bonus of 2000 dollars/kg which they can use to develop their businesses or community projects such as studies, clean water and health. The Fair Trade gold is also can be used in electronics and jewellery-making.

DID YOU KNOW THAT IN SMALL GOLD MINES:

The working conditions are terrible: exploitation and total deprivation of workers' rights are essential. 15 million people work in small-sized mines all over the world.

Children work in gold mines in Africa, Asia and South America.

Their life is at risk in tunnels and mines, there might be rockfalls and sewage collapses as a result of explosions.

Heavy metals leak into soil and pollute fertile soils, families and whole communities.

Children break, mill, grind and haul ores above the ground many times in a sizzling sun.

They breathe in the air full of dust and sometimes poisonous gases at work.

They don't wear protective clothes.

They stand in water for hours, dig sand, remove sludge from river-beds and carry bags full of mud on their heads or on their backs to the sieving and washing places.

In all sites there is a chance of falling into the shaft.

They extract gold by mercury from the ground ores.

Women and the rest of the family including small children make the mercury amalgam at home.

Why gold is so precious?

Because of its store of value it became the greatest investment. It is the king of precious metals.

In its clear form it is ductile and soft. It doesn't corrode, and due to this fact it has been the basic material of jewellerys and means of payment.

The gold is so rare that more steel is moulded per hour in the world than gold refined since the written history.

The gold jewellerys amount to 50% of the global jewellery market.

Gold is one of the minerals which causes the most serious conflicts.

Gold was bought in 2010 for 137.5 billion US dollars all over the world.

