

A career gemologist, Anna Cisecki has held some of the most precious stones ever unearthed. As Executive Director of Australian Diamond Portfolio, she's teaching investors to recognise their true value.

BEAUTIFUL, ENIGMATIC AND impossibly rare, pink diamonds have become one of the most sought-after and valued assets in the world. And, it's not by chance that investors seeking to diversify their portfolio are looking at these special little pink gems. Statistics published by the Fancy Colour Research Foundation confirm rare intense and vivid pink diamonds have experienced an incredible average annual growth of more than 14 per cent since 2005, a total price appreciation of more than 485 per cent.

"Pink diamonds have outperformed practically all investment classes as consumers and investors continue to view them as a long-term safe investment option, an effective hedge against inflation and a unique opportunity to create value and gains in a portfolio," Ms Cisecki said.

"Changes in the world economy are helping to fuel demand for investment diamonds while the supply squeeze is further driving price growth."

The Rio Tinto-owned Argyle Diamond mine in Western Australia is the only significant source of ultra-rare pink diamonds in the world, producing almost 95 per cent of global supply.

However, in less than five years it will be time to say goodbye to one of Australia's most famous natural resources. After more than four decades of production, Argyle's supply of pink diamonds is nearing exhaustion and the mine's life is drawing to a close in 2021.

But this is news which comes with a silver lining for investors and firms such as Australian Diamond Portfolio with its boutique team of specialised investment diamond advisors.

Ms Cisecki believes much of the reason for Australian Diamond Portfolio's success has come because of the need for a specialist investment firm to simplify the investment process around pink diamonds.

"Rare pink diamonds are not just the realm of the uber-wealthy; investors of all types and levels of the market are getting involved from small private retail investors and wealth managers to financial advice groups and family offices.

"The fastest growing segment of our client base is SMSF trustees. They come to firms like ours because they value our ability to source the best available stones on the global market. We also provide the full end-to-end solution

from sourcing to storage and insurance with our high-security vaulting partners, ongoing valuations and eventual resale. These are important considerations when investing in this highly lucrative space."

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Given the ongoing uncertainty in global financial markets and the demonstrated return potential, pink diamonds are indeed an asset class that every investor should be looking at.

In another decade the pink diamonds from Argyle will emerge as the new Faberge egg - the thing legends are made of.



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pretty in pink

THE AVERAGE-SIZE diamond for an engagement ring is between .5 and one carat. Compare that with the 59.60 carat rare pink diamond that was recently sold by the world's oldest auction house, Sotheby's.

The stunning ring, known as The Pink Star, went for about AUD \$94 million (US \$71 million) at Sotheby's in Hong Kong, setting a new world record for the top price of any gem sold at auction.

Originally from South Africa and mined by De Beers in 1999, the 59.60 carat Pink Star is the largest diamond of its kind the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) has graded. The colour is known as Fancy Pink, which the GIA says is the highest grade possible for a diamond.

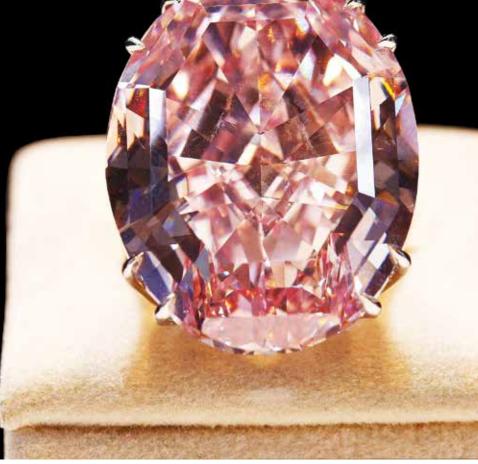
Pink diamonds obtain their unique colour from a process known as plastic deformation where the pressure changes on the gem to create structural anomalies in the crystals. On average, a pink diamond is valued at 20 times that of other diamonds.

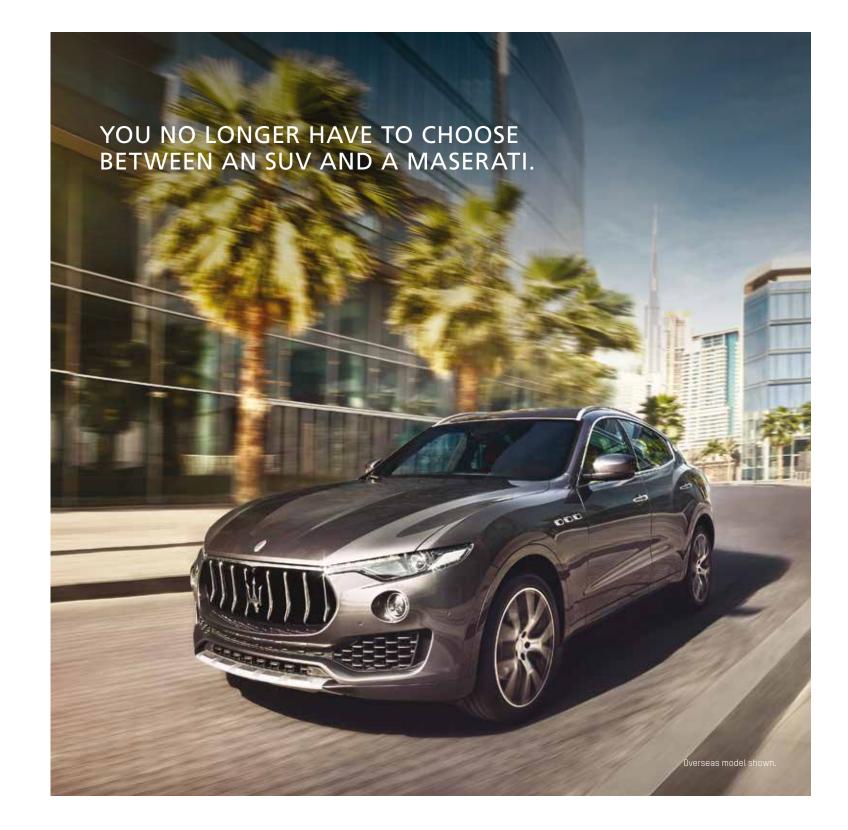
The Pink Star is rated as 'Internally Flawless', meaning there are no internal inclusions. The extraordinary diamond is classified by the GIA as a Type IIa stone, a classification that signifies chemical purity and is applicable to less than 2 per cent of all diamonds.

The massive oval-shaped pink diamond out sold the previously most expensive gem, the Oppenheimer Blue diamond, that was sold for US \$58 million in May, 2016. While Sotheby's has not revealed the name of the buyer, the auction house did reveal that the ring was purchased not by a private collector but rather by an international trader within the jewellery industry.



BOUGHT FOR THE equivalent of AUD \$17 at an English junk sale in the 1980s, the oversized ring appealed to the buyer for its size and design. The owner enjoyed wearing the ring so much they even wore it while doing housework or visiting the supermarket. When a jeweller saw the ring, it was said it might be worth something. Recently auctioned by Sotheby's, that 'something' was a 26.27 carat white diamond that fetched over AUD \$1.1 million.





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