



Erasmus+



Salt Over Gold - Myth or Truth?



SALT MAP-EUROPE



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Salt Mines in Europe

Salt mines are underground or surface facilities where salt deposits are extracted from the Earth for various purposes. Salt mining has a long history dating back thousands of years and has been a critical industry due to the importance of salt in preserving food, trading, and various industrial applications.



1. Berchtesgaden Salt Mine, Germany
2. Bex Salt Mines, Switzerland
3. Bochnia Salt Mine, Poland
4. Cardona Salt Mountain Cultural Park, Spain
5. Hallein Salt Mine, Austria
6. Hallstatt Salt Mine, Austria
7. Salina Turda, Romania
8. Salins-les-Bains, France
9. Solivar Salt Mine, Slovakia
10. Wieliczka Salt Mine, Poland
11. Anglesey, United Kingdom
12. Aveiro, Portugal
13. Camargue, France
14. Çamaltı Salt Flats, Turkey
15. Dorset, United Kingdom
16. Gozo, Malta
17. Isle of Skye, United Kingdom
18. Margherita di Savoy, Italy
19. Aksaray Salt Lake, Turkey
20. Bratislava Salt Cave, Slovakia
21. Salinas de Torrevieja, Spain
22. Laguna de la Mata, Spain
23. Lake Neusiedl, Austria and Hungary
24. Lake Trasimeno, Italy
25. Tuz Gölü, Turkey

1. Berchtesgaden Salt Mine, Germany: It is a historic salt mine located in the Bavarian Alps near the town of Berchtesgaden in Germany. It has been in operation for centuries and has played a significant role in the region's history and economy. It is open to visitors and offers guided tours. The salt is extracted using so-called "wet mining".

2. Bex Salt Mines, Switzerland: Also known as the Mines de Sel de Bex, are located in Bex, a town in the Canton of Vaud in Switzerland. These mines are another example of a historical salt mining operation that has been turned into a tourist attraction. The salt is still extracted using both traditional and modern methods.

3. Bochnia Salt Mine, Poland: It is one of the oldest salt mines in the world and is located in Bochnia, a town in southern Poland. It's another fascinating historical site that showcases the long tradition of salt mining and offers an immersive tourist experience. It doesn't produce anymore although it is used for therapeutic treatments in the mine's underground chambers.

4. Cardona Salt Mountain Cultural Park, Spain: known as Parc Cultural de la Muntanya de Sal in Catalan, is a unique tourist destination located in Cardona, Catalonia. It offers visitors a chance to explore a historical salt mine and learn about the cultural and industrial significance of salt production in the region. It is no longer used to salt extraction.

5. Hallein Salt Mine, Austria: Also known as Salzwelten Hallein, is a historic salt mine located in Hallein, near Salzburg in Austria. It's one of the oldest salt mines, and has a history that dates back more than 7,000 years in the region. It offers visitors an opportunity to explore the underground world of salt mining while learning about the history and significance of salt in the area. It is UNESCO World Heritage site. It is no longer used to salt extraction.

6. Hallstatt Salt Mine, Austria: It is a historic salt mine located near the picturesque village of Hallstatt in the Salzkammergut region of Austria. This salt mine has a rich history and offers visitors the chance to explore its underground tunnels, learn about salt mining techniques, and experience the cultural significance of salt in the area. Guided tours, that provide a comprehensive experience of the mine's history, technology, and cultural importance, are available. It is UNESCO World Heritage site. Does not extract salt anymore.

7. Salina Turda, Romania: It is a unique underground attraction located in Turda, a town in Cluj County, Romania. This former salt mine that has been transformed into an underground amusement park and tourist destination. Also health and wellness treatments are held in the mine. It is no longer used to salt extraction.

8. Salins-les-Bains, France: Located in the Jura region, the Saltworks of Salins-les-Bains are a UNESCO World Heritage site. The salt mine and saline springs have been in use since ancient times. Visitors can explore the underground galleries and learn about the history of salt production.

9. Solivar Salt Mine, Slovakia: This salt mine has a rich history that dates back to medieval times. It was an essential source of salt production, which played a significant role in the local economy and trade. The mine extracted rock salt from underground deposits. Rock salt is a type of salt that forms in solid mineral form within the Earth's crust. It is one of the oldest salt mines in Slovakia. It has been transformed into a cultural and historical site. Visitors can take tours that provide insights into the history of salt mining, the techniques used, and the importance of salt in the region's economy and culture.

10. Wieliczka Salt Mine, Poland: It is a historic salt mine located near the town of Wieliczka, just outside of Krakow in southern Poland. It is one of the most famous and well-preserved salt mines in the world, and has been designated as an UNESCO World Heritage site. The most remarkable aspect of the mine is its stunning architecture and artistry, with chapels, sculptures, and decorations all carved out of salt by miners over centuries. It is used for therapeutic treatments within the mine's chambers. It is no longer used to salt extraction.

Sea Salt in Europe

Sea salt is produced by evaporating seawater, leaving behind the salt crystals. In Europe, there are several regions known for sea salt production.

11. Anglesey, United Kingdom: Anglesey Sea Salt is produced by Halen Môn on the Isle of Anglesey in Wales. The company is known for its high-quality sea salt harvested from the Menai Strait.

12. Aveiro, Portugal: This area known for its sea salt production. The region's unique geography and climate make it conducive to salt harvesting from seawater from Atlantic Ocean. Salt production in Aveiro often follows traditional methods that have been used for generations.

13. Camargue, France: It is famous for its pink sea salt, harvested from salt pans in the area. The pink color comes from the minerals and algae present in the salt pans.

14. Çamaltı Salt Flats, Turkey: Located near İzmir on the Aegean coast, the Çamaltı Salt Flats are a significant salt-producing area in Turkey. The flats cover a large area and contribute to the country's salt production.

15. Dorset, United Kingdom: The Dorset Sea Salt Company is known for producing sea salt using traditional methods along the Jurassic Coast in southern England.

16. Gozo, Malta: The most well-known area for salt production in Gozo is the Salina Salt Pans, located near the village of Xwejni. These pans have been used for centuries to extract salt from seawater. Salt pans are carved into the coastal rock, allowing seawater to evaporate and leaving behind the salt.

17. Isle of Skye, United Kingdom: Isle of Skye Sea Salt produces salt by hand-harvesting from Loch Snizort on the Isle of Skye. The rugged coastal landscape contributes to the unique flavor of the salt in Scotland.

18. Margherita di Savoia, Italy: located in the Apulia region of southern Italy is famous for its extensive salt flats and salt pans, where seawater evaporates, leaving behind salt crystals.

Salt Lakes in Europe

Salt lakes are bodies of water that have a high concentration of dissolved salts, resulting in elevated salinity levels compared to freshwater lakes. These lakes can be found in various parts of Europe and are often formed by the accumulation of salts over time due to geological and climatic conditions.

19. Aksaray Salt Lake, Turkey: Aksaray is home to a large salt lake in central Turkey. The lake's high salinity makes it a suitable location for salt extraction. The Aksaray region produces significant amounts of salt used for various purposes, including culinary and industrial uses.

20. Bratislava Salt Cave, Slovakia: The Bratislava Salt Cave is a natural attraction in the capital city, Bratislava. It's not a traditional salt mine but rather a unique underground environment with walls rich in salt deposits. It's often used for therapeutic purposes.

21. Salinas de Torrevieja, Spain: Situated in the province of Alicante, the Salinas de Torrevieja are salt flats that create a vibrant pink color due to the presence of microorganisms. The area is known for its unique appearance and salt production.

22. Laguna de la Mata, Spain: Located near Torrevieja on the Costa Blanca, Laguna de la Mata is another saltwater lagoon in Spain known for its salt production.

23. Lake Neusiedl, Austria and Hungary: Known also as Neusiedler See is a steppe lake located on the border between Austria and Hungary. Its shallowness makes it prone to fluctuations in water level, affecting its salinity.

24. Lake Trasimeno, Italy: It is a freshwater lake in central Italy, but it has relatively high salinity due to its shallow nature. It's not a true salt lake but has a higher salt content than most freshwater lakes.

25. Tuz Gölü, Turkey:It is also known as Lake Tuz, is one of the largest hypersaline lakes in the world and is located in central Anatolia. The lake is a major source of salt production in Turkey.