

## **A Glimpse at Africa, its Geology and its Gold**

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Geology is a lot of fun, thanks largely to the efforts of organizations like the Society of Economic Geologists and the Geological Society of Nevada. We'll see photos from some SEG field trips, mostly from this year's trips in Africa. In 2007, South Africa lost its century-long record as the world's leading gold producer. Nonetheless, since 1886, the Witwatersrand basin in South Africa has produced 40% of all the gold ever mined on Earth, and remaining resources, both shallow and deep, are immense. With over 2,000 years of historical gold mining, Ghana has produced over 50 million ounces of gold, primarily from the Ashanti region. We'll see how modern, ultra-deep mining in South Africa contrasts with modern and artisanal mining in Ghana, and how the climate and geology affect the ways of life in the two countries.