



# *New Zealand's FIRST Million Dollar Diamond*



Currently the most expensive diamond in New Zealand ...

**W**in Charlebois, Managing Director of The Diamond Shop talks to me about the gift of love and in this case a whole lot a love is about to happen! A 19.15 carat round brilliant diamond worth one million New Zealand dollars, the most expensive diamond New Zealand. However, Win tells me this diamond is very reasonably priced in comparison with worldwide prices.

The 19.15 carat masterpiece was escorted to New Zealand by Lior Sofer, the son of acclaimed diamond merchant Beny Sofer who purchased the 'rough' diamond. The diamond was mined in South Africa and found as a very high quality rough of approximately 52 carats. The 'rough' was destined to become a top quality diamond

and once realised its final destination was New Zealand, the cutting factory in Tel Aviv termed the precious stone 'The Star of New Zealand.'

"It is a rare occasion that a diamond of this size and cut comes on the market," says Charlebois. "You can count the number of diamonds of this quality on your fingers that are for sale around the world today. To have this stone in New Zealand is very exciting." Being so precious and sought after the diamond will have around the clock surveillance to ensure its safety. At the date of this story the diamond is yet to be purchased by a loving owner who can choose how they wish it to be set, but interest is high for the one thing that will soon become somebody's new best friend!

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