

Crazy Craters Around The World



Craters are bowl-shaped depressions in the ground caused by the high velocity impact of a meteorite or asteroid. Here are some of the most well-known craters all over the world:

Lake Bosumtwi crater

- Located in Kumasi, Ghana
- The impact of the meteorite opened up a crater that slowly filled with water, creating Ghana's only natural lake.
- Lake Bosumtwi crater is 10.5 kilometers across.



Lake Bosumtwi crater



Kumasi
Ghana



Barringer crater

- Located in the state of Arizona, USA
- Best preserved impact center
- Also known as Meteor Crater, Coon Butte and Canyon Diablo
- Barringer Crater is relatively small. It measures only 1.2 kilometers in diameter.



Barringer crater

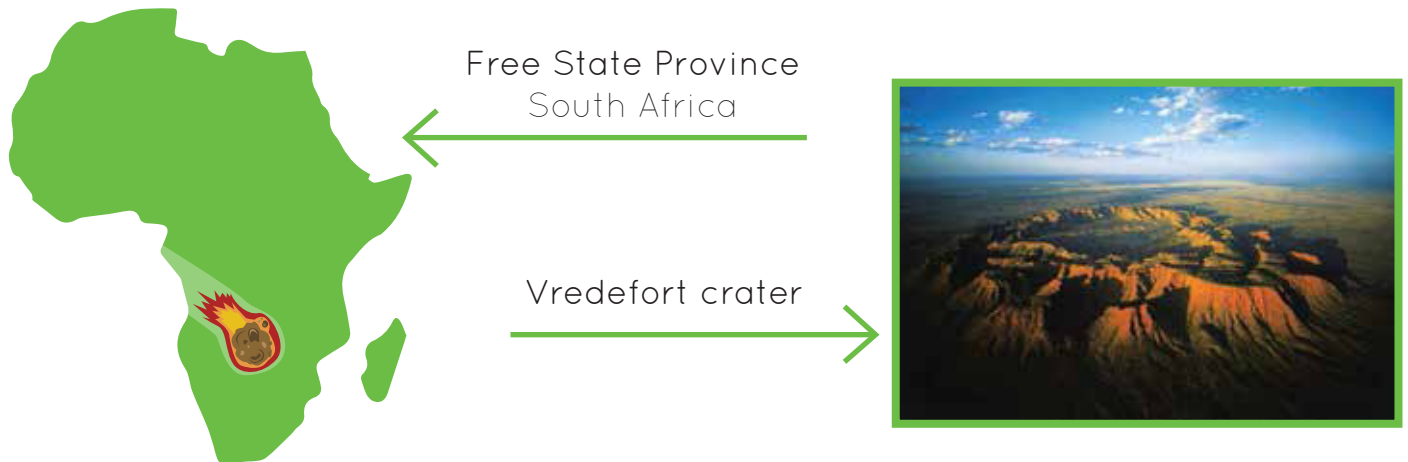


Arizona
USA



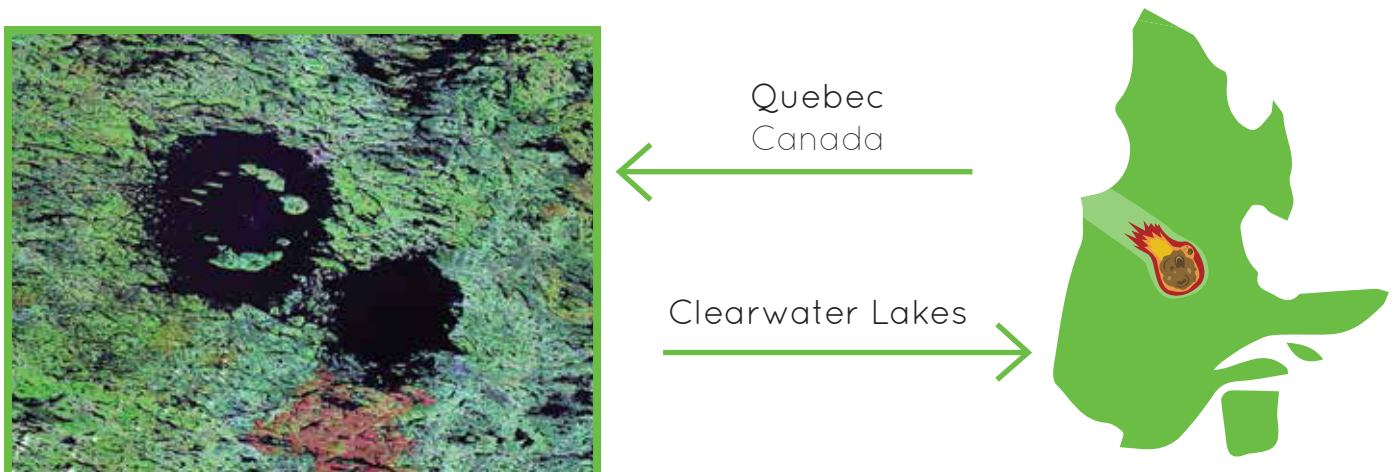
Vredefort crater

- Located in the Free State Province of South Africa and named after the town of Vredefort, which is situated near its center.
- Largest verified impact crater on Earth
- Scientists estimate that Vredefort crater was created by an asteroid roughly 5-10 kilometers in diameter.
- Vredefort crater is about 300 kilometers wide, and more than 2 billion years old!



Clearwater Lakes

- Located in Quebec, Canada
- These two lake craters were caused by a pair of asteroids that crashed into Earth simultaneously
- West Clearwater Lake has a 32 kilometer diameter, and East Clearwater Lake has a 22 kilometer diameter.



Reading Comprehension

Craters are created by meteorites that hit the earth at great speeds. This impact creates lakes, canyons and other landforms. What other natural processes affect the shape of the land?

Finding Volume

Let's do a math review! Imagine we live in a world where craters are rectangular in shape. Find the volume of the craters using the formula below.

$$\text{volume} = \text{length} \times \text{width} \times \text{height}$$

If the Vredefort crater is 300 kilometers wide, 250 kilometers long and 10 kilometers deep, what is its volume?

If the western Clearwater Lake is 32 kilometers wide, 26 kilometers long and 1.5 kilometers deep, what is its volume?

If Lake Bosumtwi crater is about 8 kilometers wide, 8 kilometers long and 1 kilometer deep, what is its volume?