

PETALITE

**Geographical Source:**

Bikita, Zimbabwe

Geological Source:

Lithium pegmatites partially altered by intrusions of soda and potash enriched magma

Characteristics:

Petalite is a 1st choice main flux for glazes. It has the highest silica content and the lowest coefficient of expansion of any of the lithium minerals. At temperatures above 1900°F, petalite converts irreversibly into a solid solution of silica in beta spodumene with no thermal expansion rate. This characteristic makes petalite useful in the production of heat-resistant wares but may also contribute to glaze fit difficulties.