

Big meteorite chunk found in Russia's Ural Mountains

February 27 2013, by Nancy Atkinson



Lecturer at Ural Federal University's Institute of Physics and Technology Viktor Grokhovsky with meteorite fragment found during an expedition in the Chelyabinsk region on February 25, 2013. Credit: RIA Novosti/Pavel Lysizin

Scientists and meteorites hunters have been on a quest to find bits of rock from the asteroid exploded over the city of Chelyabinsk in Russia on February 15. More than 100 fragments have been found so far that appear to be from the space rock, and now scientists from Russia's Ural Federal University have discovered the biggest chunk so far, a meteorite fragment weighing more than one kilogram (2.2 lbs).



A hole in Chebarkul Lake made by meteorite debris. Credit: Chebarkul town head Andrey Orlov

The asteroid has been estimated to be about 15 meters (50 feet) in diameter when it struck Earth's atmosphere, traveling several times the speed of sound, and exploded into a [fireball](#), sending an shockwave to the city below, which broke windows and caused other damage to buildings, injuring about 1,500 people.

Fragments of the [meteorite](#) have been found along a 50 kilometer (30 mile) trail under the meteorite's [flight path](#). Small meteorites have also been found in an eight-meter (25 feet) wide crater in the region's Lake Chebarkul, scientists said earlier this week. Viktor Grokhovsky from the

Urals University believes there are more to be found, including a possible biggest chunk that he says may lie at the bottom of Lake Chebarkul. It could be up to 60cm in diameter, he estimated.

This video from NASA explains more:

Please note that while many pieces have been found, and if you are looking to buy a chunk of this famous meteorite, you need to approach this with a lot of [skepticism](#). There have been some reports of people trying to sell pieces that they claim to be from the Ural/Russian meteorite, but they likely are not. Be careful and do your research on the seller before you buy.

Source: [Universe Today](#)

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