

# TROPICANA

The Tropicana Gold Mine poured first gold in September 2013 eight years after the initial discovery. At the time Tropicana was the first greenfields gold discovery to be brought into production in Australia for more than a decade.

**Location:** 330 kilometres east-northeast of Kalgoorlie-Boulder on the western edge of Western Australia's Great Victorian Desert.

**Ownership:** AngloGold Ashanti Australia Ltd (70% and manager) and Regis Resources Limited (30%) through the Tropicana Joint Venture.

## Key Statistics Calendar 2021

**Production:** 378,890oz (100%)

**Plant Throughput:** 9.2 Mtpa

**Head Grade:** 1.42 g/t

**Gold Recovery:** 89.8%

**Total Cash Costs:** US\$987/oz (AGA)

**All-in Sustaining Costs:** US\$1,326/oz (AGA)

**Ore Reserve at 100% (as at December 31, 2021):** 43.1 million tonnes grading 1.72 g/t for 2.38 Moz of contained gold.

**Mineral Resource at 100% (inclusive, as at December 31, 2021):** 126.2 million tonnes grading 1.71 g/t for 6.95 Moz of contained gold.

*The Ore Reserve and Mineral Resource estimates for Tropicana are updated on an annual basis. AngloGold Ashanti and Regis Resources provide full details of these estimates, including the applicable JORC statements, on their websites: [www.anglogoldashanti.com](http://www.anglogoldashanti.com) and [www.regisresources.com.au](http://www.regisresources.com.au).*

## Key Contractors

**Mining:** Macmahon Holdings

**Power Generation:** Kalgoorlie Power Systems

**Village & Administration:** ESS

**Aviation:** Cobham Aviation, Goldfields Air Services

**Day works Services:** Kai Rho Contracting

**Light Vehicle Workshop:** Triodia

## Subcontractors

**Ancillary Equipment and Personnel:** Carey Mining

**Explosive Supply:** Dyno Nobel

## Workforce

Approximately 350 employed by AGAA and 850 employed by contractors.





### Overview

One of Australia's top five gold mines, Tropicana transitioned from large scale open pit mining to a combination of open pit and underground mining in 2020 when the Boston Shaker underground mine started ore production. The site has produced 4 Moz since it began operations.

Open pit mining uses conventional drill and blast methodology with total annual movement of ore and waste of approximately 90 Mtpa. The open pit mining strategy at Tropicana has been designed to optimise cash flow, NPV and delivery of ore. This strategy resulted in the decision in 2021 to go ahead with a final cutback of the Havana pit. The Havana cutback will generate a further 32 million tonnes of ore for 1.4 Moz of gold, extending mine life from 2027 to 2030.

Commercial production from the Havana pit is scheduled for early 2023, providing a stable production base to incorporate additional underground sources and further exploration success.

The Boston Shaker underground mine achieved steady state production of 1.4Mt of ore per annum in early 2022 and a new mining area under the Tropicana pit will commence production in late 2022. Underground mining uses mechanised jumbo development and open stoping methods.

A feasibility study was underway in 2022 on underground mining of the Havana Resource that extends beneath the final Havana pit design.

The processing plant has a throughput capacity of ~9Mtpa. The crushing circuit consists of a primary gyratory crusher feeding a set of secondary cone crushers and tertiary high pressure grinding rolls. A 14MW ball mill and a 6MW ball mill operating in parallel complete the grinding circuit.

Gold production in 2021 was lower year-on-year while mining focused on waste removal in the Havana cutback and the Boston Shaker and Havana pits. Production was also adversely impacted by a wall failure in the Boston Shaker open pit in June 2021, which delayed higher grade ore delivery.

The mine plan was adjusted to mitigate the shortfall and reduce the impact.

A primary focus in 2022 will be the optimal sequencing of the pits and ensuring waste stripping is carried out on schedule.

Exploration at the site remains focused on testing for extensions of underground mineralisation at Boston Shaker, Tropicana and Havana and on regional targets.







## Environment

**Tropicana has environmental certification under the new ISO 14001:2015. Tropicana's EIA documents on subsequent reports can be viewed at [www.tropicana-jv.com.au](http://www.tropicana-jv.com.au).**

Biodiversity is a feature of the safety and environmental management plan developed for the site. As part of the operation's biodiversity offsets strategy in its approved environmental management plan, the Great Victoria Desert Biodiversity Trust was established. A condition of the Federal Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conversation Act approval for the mine, the Trust reflects the Tropicana Joint Venture partners' recognition of the need to base environmental management decisions on robust science. The Trust funds research on the remote Great Victoria Desert, where the mine is located, such as the first Sandhill Dunnart Research and Adaptive Management Plan for the GVD, which incorporates traditional owner land management expertise. Updates on the Trust and its research projects can be found at [www.gvdbiodiversitytrust.org.au](http://www.gvdbiodiversitytrust.org.au).

In 2021, the company developed a new Climate Change Strategy and outlined its full commitment to the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM's) target of net zero Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions by 2050 or sooner and in July 2022 was close to finalising a 2030 target for reduced Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions.

A site-wide water optimisation project started in 2021 to reduce water abstraction from aquifers and use water by preference, namely water from higher efficiency bores requiring less energy consumption and providing higher water yields, including those around the mine's Tailings Storage Facility (TSF). Variable speed pumps with reduced energy usage, operating off the mine's internal electricity supply grid, were introduced, eliminating the need for stand-alone diesel generators, which further helped to reduce GHG emissions. The project resulted in an increase of the site's recycled water and cut diesel consumption for the borefield pumping requirements by up to 35%.





## Community

For almost two decades AngloGold Ashanti has actively supported education, youth, community development and health programmes in communities across the Western Australian goldfields, from Laverton to Kalgoorlie-Boulder and beyond, including the remote Aboriginal community of Tjuntjuntjara.

Supporting education programmes at Eastern Goldfields College, Kalgoorlie-Boulder Community High School and John Paul College remains a strong focus. Education and employment initiatives are also delivered through long-term partnerships with indigenous academies: Kalgoorlie Clontarf Academy, the Kalgoorlie Girls Academy and the Graham Farmer Follow the Dream Programme. Along with annual funding support for these organisations, AGAA offers mine site tours, exposure to a wide variety of careers in the mining industry and a transition-to-work programme.

AGAA Tropicana also supports a 'Think Local, Buy Local and Employ Local' strategy to promote business opportunities and the growth of local supply networks.

## Employment

The remote location of Tropicana necessitates a fly-in, fly-out operation with flights arranged to cater for employees and contractors based in both Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Perth. The site operates a combination of 4:3, 8:6, 2:2 and 2:1 rosters. Tropicana places an emphasis on recruiting locally where possible.

In 2022 the unique *Get into Mining* training programme was run for the seventh time at the site, offering a unique, entry-level employment opportunity for Aboriginal people in WA's goldfields region. A collaborative programme run by Aboriginal-owned mining and civil contracting company Carey Mining, with the support of Macmahon Holdings and the Tropicana JV partners, *Get into Mining* comprises a blend of training in a classroom, at a simulated worksite and through practical activities at Tropicana. The programme graduates go into employment across the mining and exploration departments at the site.

### Contact

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