

B

- bacilar** *adj* fibrous | bacillary
- bacteria** *nf* bacteria | *b. tigmotáctica* thigmotactic bacteria
- bacular** *adj* rod-shaped
- báculo** *nm* staff | [Méx] transit rod, range pole | *b. de Jacob* Jacob's staff
- badana** *nf* bag made from cured sheepskin used to transport mercury
- badén** *nm* gully
- bagazo** *nm* drilling mud
- bahía** *nf* bay
- baja** *nf* fall, drop | *b. ley* low grade
- bajada** *nf* descent | *bahada* (merging of several alluvial fans) | slope | drop | ebb | downgrade | ladderway
- bajamar** *nm* low tide | ebb
- bajante** *nm* low water, low tide
- bajar** *vintr* to descend, sink | to lower | to drop or fall in price | to ebb | *vtr* to reduce in price | to lessen
- bajial** *nm* low ground subject to flooding
- bajío** *nm* bank, shoal | sandbar | lowland
- bajo,-ja** *adj* low | *bajo de ley* of low grade
- bajo** *nm* footwall | shoal or sandbank
- bajociano,-na** *adj* Bajocian
- bajocense** *adj* Bajocian
- bajociense** *adj* Bajocian
- balaje** *nm* balas ruby (a rose-red *var* of spinel)
- balanza** *nf* balance | blind shaft | *b. de Jolly* Jolly balance | *b. de torsión* torsion balance
- balate** *nm* boundary marker, survey marker | border of a trench | terrace
- balde** *nm* bucket | *b. de arrastre* dragline bucket | *b. de extracción* mine bucket | *b. de pozo* shaft bucket
- balicero** *nm* [Méx] rodman
- balsamo** *nm* balsam | *b. de Canada* Canadian balsam
- banca** *nf* bench
- bancada** *nf* stope | bench
- bancal** *nm* berm, bench, terrace
- banco** *nm* thick bed or stratum | bank or bar of a river, etc. | bench (in a quarry or mine) | [Méx] horse (barren rock within or that deflects a vein) | *b. barrera* barrier beach | *b. de arena* sandbank, sand bar | *b. de avíos* bank which advances funds for the working of mines | *b. de coral* coral reef | *b. de cota fija* bench mark | *b. de grava* gravel bank | *b. de hielo* ice floe | *b. de nivel* bench mark | *b. de piedra* thick bed of stone | *b. de rescates* bank where silver bullion could be exchanged by miners for coin | *b. de río* river bank | *B. Minero* bank, usually state owned, set up to provide credit to small and medium-size mining enterprises | *b. platero* [Sinaloa, Méx] argentiferous pyrite
- bandaleta** *nf* | *en b.* loop
- bandeado,-da** *adj* banded | *b. groseramente* crudly banded
- bandeamiento** *nm* banding
- banquear** *vtr* to level, bench | [Col, Vz] to excavate
- banqueo** *nm* leveling, benching | bench | [Col, Vz] excavation | *b. de préstamo* [Vz] borrow pit
- banqueta** *nf* small bed or bench
- banquisa** *nf* pack-ice
- bañado** *nm* swamp, marsh
- bara** *nf* bar (unit of pressure)
- barcana** *nf* barchan dune
- barequear** *vtr* [Col] to extract as much of the paydirt in a placer as possible without disturbing the overburden
- baratina** *nf* barite
- barchan** *nm* barchan dune
- bario** *nm* barium
- barisfera** *nf* barysphere
- baritina** *nf* barite
- barján** *nm* barchan dune
- barlovento,-ta** *adj* windward
- barniz** *nf* varnish | *b. del desierto* desert varnish
- barquina** *nf* a type of large furnace
- barra** *nf* bar, ingot | sandbank, bar | crowbar | *b. aviada* limited liability share | *b. aviadora* share paying assessments | *b. de arena* sand bar | *b. de caliza granular oolítica* oolitic grainstone bar | *b. de mina* hand drill | *b. de plata* [Méx] silver ingot of 75 pounds | *b. de río* shoal, bar | *b. prelitoral* longshore bar | *b. viuda* limited liability share
- barranca** *nf* steep, jagged canyon, wash | cliff, bluff | gorge, ravine | slope (hill or mountain) | downgrade | [Arg] riverbank | *b. abajo* downhill | *b. de falla* fault scarp | *b. de falla con erosión* faultline scarp
- barranco** *nm* gorge | fissure | precipice, cliff | landslide scar | [Vz] small round pits, about four feet in diameter, dug to work shallow ores
- barrancón** *nm* gorge, canyon
- barrancoso,-sa** *adj* broken, rough (terrain)
- barranquero** *nm* placer miner
- barranquilla** *nf* [Méx] gully

- barreal** *nm* clay pit
- barremiano,-na** *adj* Barremian
- barremense** *adj* Barremian
- barremiense** *adj* Barremian
- barrena** *nf* drill bit | crow bar | *b. asimétrica* side hill bit | *b. batidora* churn drill | *b. de arrastre* drag bit | *b. de cable* cable drill | *b. de canteador* stone cutter's drill | *b. de cateo* earth borer | *b. de cesto* basket bit | *b. de chorro* jet bit | *b. de muelas* reamer bit | *b. de perforación desviada* directional bit | *b. regulable* expansion bit | *b. tubular* core drill | *b. sacanúcleos* core drill | *b. sacatestigos* core drill
- barrenar** *vtr* to drill
- barreno** *nm* shot | drill | drill hole | [Col] drilled well
- barrera** *nf* clay pit | barrier | *b. prelitoral* longshore bar
- barrero** *nm* clay deposit | clay pit
- barretero** *nm* miner employed at the working face cutting ores with a *barra* or crowbar
- barretón** *nm* heavy crowbar | [Col] miner's pick
- barrial** *nm* clay pit
- barril** *nm* barrel | [Fr Guiana] a weight of 100 kilograms
- barrilla** *nf* [Bol] grains of native copper disseminated in other copper ores | [Bol] copper or tin ore concentrates
- barro** *nm* clay, loam, mud, earth, silt | marl | [Col] overburden on gold placers | *b. de olleros* potter's clay | *b. glaciariaco* till | *b. refractario* [Cu] fire clay
- barroso,-sa** *adj* muddy, clayey, silty
- bartoniano,-na** *adj* Bartonian
- bartoniense** *adj* Bartonian
- basal** *adj* basal | basement
- basáltico,-ca** *adj* basaltic
- basalto** *nm* basalt
- basamento** *nm* basement
- base** *nm* base (of crude oil) | *b. de erosión* base level of erosion
- básico,-ca** *adj* basic | basal
- basitas** *nfpl* [Arg] basic rocks
- bastoniforme** *adj* rod-like
- batea** *nf* wooden gold pan, traditionally 20 inches in diameter and 25 inches deep | *b. cortadora* polished gold pan 16 inches in diameter and rather less than 2 inches deep | *b. lavadora* variety of gold pan 16 inches in diameter and 2 inches deep | *b. vetadora* gold pan 12 inches in diameter with ears or handles
- | *b. zambullidora* an oblong, elliptical gold pan 3 to 4 feet long and 14 to 18 inches wide
- bataque** *nm* [BC, Méx] deposits formed by spring waters
- batería de pisones** *nf* battery of stamps
- batial** *adj* bathyal
- batipelágico,-ca** *adj* bathypelagic
- batir** *vtr* [Col] to work placers by force of water | *b. el monte* to explore for gold placers, etc.
- batisfera** *nf* bathysphere
- batisismo** *nm* bathyseism
- batolito** *nm* batholith
- batoniano,-na** *adj* Bathonian
- batonense** *adj* Bathonian
- batoniense** *adj* Bathonian
- bauleao** *nm* [Col] pyrite cubes
- bayociano,-na** *adj* Bajocian
- Bayociense** *nm* Bajocian
- benceno** *nm* benzene
- beneficiable** *adj* millable, suitable for beneficiation, workable
- beneficiador** *nm* miller | mill operator | person employed to supervise the *patio* process of amalgamation of silver ores
- beneficiar** *vtr* to work or improve a mine | to derive a profit from working a mine | to win metals from ore or concentrate | to smelt, refine
- beneficio** *nm* working of a mine | profits derived from working a mine | reduction of ores and concentrates, smelting | productive ore | the richest part of a deposit | *b. de cazo* [Méx] the hot amalgamation process of reducing silver ores | *b. de hierro* amalgamation with the addition of iron filings | *b. de metales* concentration of ores | *b. de patio* the cold, *patio* process of amalgamation of silver ores | *b. de toneles* the Freiberg or barrel process of amalgamating silver ores | *b. por cianuración* cyanide process of precious metal recovery | *b. por cloruración* chlorination process of metal recovery | *b. por fuego* recovery of metals by direct smelting of ore
- bencina** *nf* gasoline, benzene
- bentónico,-ca** *adj* benthic
- bentonítico,-ca** *adj* bentonitic
- bentos** *nm* benthos
- benzol** *nm* benzene
- berilio** *nm* beryllium
- berilo** *nm* beryl | *b. noble* transparent beryl | *b. verdemar* aquamarine
- berma** *nf* berm

- bermellón** *nm* cinnabar
berriasiano,-na *adj* Berriasian
berriasiense *adj* Berriasian
berroqueña *nf* granite
bertierita *nf* berthierite
betumen *nm* bitumen
betún *nm* bitumen, asphalt | *b. de Judea* asphalt
 | *b. marga* bituminous marl
biáxico,-ca *adj* biaxial
biboro *nm* botryolite
bicarbonato *nm* bicarbonate
bicloruro *nm* bichloride
bicharra *nf* [Pe] a type of small furnace
bidón *nm* jerry can
bifurcación *nf* bifurcation, branching, forking |
 branch of a vein that follows along strike
bifurcamiento *nm* branching of a vein
bifurcarse *vpr* to branch, as for a vein
bimbalete *nm* [Pe] a crude ore mill consisting of
 a large boulder rocked by a transverse bar
binario *nm* binary | *b. dígito* bit
binche *nm* [Arg] cubic crystals of pyrite found in
 gold-bearing conglomerates
binomio,-mia *adj* binomial
bioestratigrafía *nf* biostratigraphy
bioestratigráfico,-ca *adj* biostratigraphic
bioherma *nf* bioherm
biolita *nf* biolith
biolitita *nf* boundstone
biolito *nm* organic sediment
bióxido *nm* dioxide | *b. carbónico* carbon dioxide
birrefringencia *nf* birefringence
birrefringente *adj* birefringent
bisilicato *nm* bisilicate
bismalito *nm* bysmalith
bismutina *nf* bismuthenite
bismutinita *nf* bismuthenite
bismuto *nm* bismuth | *b. blenda* eulytite | *b.*
nativo native bismuth | *b. ocre* oxide or
 carbonate of bismuth
bisulfato *nm* bisulfate
bisulfuro *nm* bisulfide
bitounita *nf* bytownite
bitumenización *nf* bituminization
bitumífero,-ra *adj* bituminous
bituminoso,-sa *adj* bituminous
bivalencia *nf* bivalence
bivalente *adj* bivalent
blanco,-ca *adj* white
blandura *adj* softness | *nf* soft, crumbly earth
blanquizal *nm* pipe clay
blastogranítico,-ca *adj* blastogranitic
blastoideo,-dea *adj* blastoid
blastoporfirítico,-ca *adj* blastoporphyritic
blenda *nf* blende | sphalerite | *b. acaramelada*
 yellow sphalerite | *b. amarilla* yellow sphalerite
 | *b. arsenical* orpiment | *b. cadmífera* greenockite
 | *b. córnea* [Méx] hornblende | *b. de plata*
 pyrargyrite | *b. de zinc* sphalerite | *b. parda*
 brown sphalerite | *b. roja* red sphalerite | *b.*
rubí red sphalerite | *b. testácea* fibrous
 sphalerite
blonco bueno *nm* [Guanajuato, Méx] a third
 class of rich ore from the *veta madre* of about
 400 ounce silver to the ton
bloque *nm* block | *b. errático* glacial erratic | *b.*
de fallas fault block
bloque-diagrama *nm* block diagram
bloquear *vtr* to block out (ore)
bloqui *nm* ingot
bobo,-ba *adj* [Ch] sterile, barren (of ore)
boca *nf* the first opening made on a vein or lode
 | mouth or collar of a shaft, well or adit |
 mouth of a river | gap, pass, saddle | *b. de*
glaciar glacial outlet | ice cave | *b. de pozo*
 wellhead | *b. mina* portal, mouth of an adit
bocal *nm* mouth, entrance | gap, straight,
 narrows | pit head (coal mine)
bocamejora *nf* auxilliary shaft
bocamina *nf* portal, entrance to an adit or tunnel
bocana *nf* [Col] river mouth
bocarrena *nf* geode
bocarte *nm* stamp mill | crusher | drag mill
bocartear *vtr* to crush ore in a stamp mill
bocarteo *nm* crushing of ore in a stamp mill
bodega *nf* chamber deposit
bodoque *nm* argentite | [Batopilas, Méx] silver
 chloride
bofía *nf* gypsum pipe
bofón *nm* plug
bogue *nm* [Sp] boghead coal
bol arménico *nm* bole (type of red mud)
boleo *nm* nodule of ore found in a vein |
 concretions of ore found in sedimentary ore
 deposits | [Méx] waste dump
bolichar *vtr* to reduce ore in a *boliche*
boliche *nm* bowl concentrator used in the *patio*
 process of amalgamating silver ores
bólido *nm* meteorite
bolo *nm* [Col] a red ocher found in placers
bolón *nm* cobble, boulder
bolone *nm* [Ch] rounded fragment of copper ore

- bolsa** *nf* richest part of a mine | rich pocket of ore | small irregular deposit | vug lined with druse
- bolsada** *nf* rich pocket of ore | druse | irregular deposit | pocket, cavity
- bolsilla** *nf* small bunch of ore
- bolsón** *nm* bolson, internal basin | large pocket of ore
- bolsonada** *nf* bunch of ore
- bolsonero,-ra** *adj* [Bol] in rich ore, in pockets of ore
- bollandiano,-na** *adj* Bollandian
- bollandiense** *adj* Bollandian
- bollo** *nm* [Pe] pocket of ore
- bomba** *nf* bomb (experimental) | pump | *b. calorimétrica* calorimetric bomb | *b. volcánica* volcanic bomb
- bonanza** *nf* large deposit of rich ore | ore shoot | *en b.* yielding a profit, in good ore
- bono** *nm* bonus | *b. de caja* cash bonus
- bononiano,-na** *adj* Bononian
- bononiense** *adj* Bononian
- boratera** *nf* [Arg, Bol, Ch] borax deposit
- borato** *nm* borate | [Ch] ulexite | *b. calcinado* calcined ulexite
- borde** *nm* river bank | fringe, edge | *b. continental* continental borderland
- bordo** *nm* edge | ore remaining in a mine
- bórico,-ca** *adj* boric, boracic
- boro** *nm* boron
- borra** *nm* [Méx] matrix, gangue | barren rock | refined borax | *b. de veta* soft, altered rock | *en b.* in unproductive ground
- borrasca** *nf* an unproductive or unprofitable mine | barren rock | *b. de la capa* touncing of a bed into adjacent beds | *dar or caer en b.* to become unproductive or unprofitable
- boruro** *nm* boride
- bota** *nf* leather bag used to carry ore out of a mine
- botadero** *nm* dump
- botamiento** *nm* fault | dislocation
- botar** *vtr* to dump
- botella** *nf* flask | *b. de ácido* acid bottle | *b. de azogue* flask of mercury
- botija** *nf* [Bol] rawhide bucket of about 7 gallons capacity
- botroide** *adj* botryoidal
- bóveda** *nf* cave or cavern | dome, cupola | chamber deposit | *b. de sal* salt dome
- bovedón** *nm* [Pe] chamber
- boya** *nm* [Cerro de Pasco, Pe] rich vein or pocket of ore | *b. del cobre* copper production boom in 1887 in Perú due to high world market prices for copper
- bradfordiano,-na** *adj* Bradfordian
- bradfordiense** *adj* Bradfordian
- bradisismo** *nm* bradyseism
- braguetilla** *nf* [Pe] crude smelting furnace, often no more than a roasting pit
- braquianticlinal** *nm* brachyantycline
- braquiópodo** *nm* brachiopod
- braquisinclinal** *nm* brachysyncline
- brasa** *nf* [Almadén, Sp] reduction of mercury ore by roasting and distillation
- braunespato** *nm* brown spar (any carbonate colored brown by iron)
- brazo** *nf* fathom (a unit of length)
- brazada** *nf* [Col, Vz] fathom (a unit of length) | *b. de piedra* [Méx] a cubic measure used in selling building stone
- brazaje** *nm* water depth
- brazo** *nm* arm | branch of a stream | *b. pantanoso* bayou
- brea** *nf* pitch or tar | asphalt | *b. de alquitrán* coal tar | *b. de carbón* coal tar | *b. de hulla* coal tar | *b. de tierra* earth pitch | *b. mineral* heavy oil, maltha, asphalt
- brecha** *nf* breccia | opening, break, crevasse | [Col] prospecting trench | *b. conchífera* shell hash | *b. de dislocación* crush breccia | *b. de fallas* fault breccia | *b. de fricción* fault breccia | *b. de huesos* bone breccia | *b. de trituración* fault breccia | *b. de talud* talus breccia | *b. filoniana* vein breccia | *b. milonita* mylonitic breccia | *b. osífera* bone breccia | *b. poligénica* polygenetic breccia | *b. tectónica* tectonic breccia | *b. volcánica* volcanic breccia
- brechación** *nf* brecciation
- brechiforme** *adj* brecciated
- brechoide** *adj* brecciated
- brechoso,-sa** *adj* brecciated
- brigada** *nf* party, gang, crew | *b. de campo* field party | *b. del tránsito* transit party | *b. topográfica* survey party
- brillantez** *nf* brilliance (gems)
- brillo** *nm* luster | *b. anacarado* pearly luster | *b. ceroso* waxy luster | *b. de antimonio* antimonite | *b. de antimonio argentífero* miargyrite | *b. de betún* pitchy luster | *b. de bismuto* bismuthenite | *b. de cobalto* cobaltite | *b. de cobre* chalcocite | *b. de hierro* red hemetite | *b. de plata* argentite | *b. diamantino* adamantine luster | *b. grasiento*

- greasy luster | *b. graso* greasy luster | *b. grasoso* [Bol] greasy luster | *b. mantecoso* greasy luster | *b. mate* dull luster | *b. metálico* metallic luster | *b. nacarado* pearly luster | *b. resinoso* resinous luster | *b. sedoso* silky luster | *b. terroso* earthy luster | *b. vítreo* glassy luster
- briozoario** *nm* bryozoan
- brocado** *nm* [Pe] low-grade ore
- brocal** *nm* collar (of a shaft) | entrance (to an adit)
- brocantita** *nf* brochantite
- broceo** *nm* [Ch] barrenness or sterility of an ore deposit | *en broceo* in barren ground
- bromargira** *nf* bromargyrite
- bromargirita** *nf* bromargyrite
- bromo** *nm* bromine
- bromuro** *nm* bromide
- bronce** *nm* bronze | pyrite | any mineral of a bronze color | [Pe] iron and copper sulfide ores | *b. bruno* [Zacatecas, Méx] silver-bearing pyrite | *b. amarillo* pyrite or chalcopyrite | *b. añilado* covellite | *b. apretado* pyrite | *b. blanco* pyrite | [Potosí, Bol] arsenopyrite | *b. bueno* [Guanajuato, Méx] silver-bearing pyrite | *b. chino* pyrite or chalcopyrite | *b. de cobre* chalcopyrite | *b. dorado* chalcopyrite | *b. malo* [Guanajuato, Méx] pyrite barren of silver | *b. morado* bornite | *b. nochistle* chalcopyrite | *b. plateado* [Ch] copper sulfide ore | *b. platero* silver-bearing pyrite
- broncita** *nf* bronzite
- bronco** *nm* greenhorn, bronco (new, unproven oil field employee) | [Méx] loose, rock ready to fall
- bronzado,-da** *adj* [Pe] containing copper and iron sulfide ore or *bronces*
- bronzudo** *nm* [Méx] pyritic ore
- broquita** *nf* brookite
- brosa** *nf* [Bol] low-grade ore
- broseo** *nm* [Bol] weathering and decomposition of ores
- brosirí** *nm* worker, usually *minga* used to break up ore
- brotadero** *nm* seep, spring, source
- brotar** *vtr* to outcrop | to seep, emerge (groundwater)
- brotazone de veta** *nm* [Méx] apex of a vein
- brote** *nm* [Cu] outcrop | *b. de filtración* seepage outcrop
- broza** *nf* [Bol, Pe] barren part of a vein | low grade ore | [Bol] coarse-grained minerals | [Ch] mine waste
- buitrón** *nm* section of the *patio* of an *ingenio* where each *cuerpo* of ore was treated by the *patio* process of amalgamation of silver ores (a *patio* was generally divided into several *buitrones*)
- brújula** *nf* compass | *b. de geólogo* geologists' compass | *b. minera* mine compass
- bruno,-na** *adj* dark brown
- bruto,-ta** *adj* coarse, rough | crude
- buche** *nm* [Col] pocket of ore
- bucle** *nm* shield
- bufo** *nf* [Mazipal, Méx] beds of brown iron ore and malachite
- buncenita** *nf* bunsenite
- burdigaliano,-na** *adj* Burdigalian
- burdigaliense** *adj* Burdigalian
- burga** *nf* hot spring
- buro** *nm* chalk | marl
- burrear** *vtr* [Sp] to carry ore on one's shoulders
- busca** *nf* search, exploration | [Méx] ore taken out by prospectors
- buscador** *nm* prospector
- buscar** *vtr* to prospect or explore
- buscón** *nm* prospector
- busconero** *nm* prospector
- búsqueda** *nf* search | *b. de información* scouting a well
- butano** *nm* butane
- buzamiento** *nm* dip, inclination | pitch | angle of dip | [Ch] plunge (in Chile *manteo* is used for dip) | *b. aparente* apparent dip | *b. arriba* updip | *b. axil* plunge | *b. del eje* plunge | *b. en cupula* quaquaversal dip
- buzante** *adj* plunging
- buzar** *vtr* to dip