



# Nature on your doorstep

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# Ogmore fossils

The rocks at Ogmore-by-Sea tell a story of tropical seas, desert storms, and sea-level rise in south Wales from 350 to 200 million years ago.

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Please don't hammer the cliffs or try to extract fossils. Just take photos and leave the fossils for others to enjoy. Take care of steep cliffs, slippery rocks and hidden crevasses.

**Jurassic**

Bluey-grey limestones formed in warm, shallow seas. Mainly found in small quarries behind the cliffs. Occasional fossils.

*200 million years*



**Bivalve shell**  
*Pecten*

(6 - 8cm)



**Brachiopod shell**  
*Productus*

(up to 6cm)



**Brachiopod shell**  
*Delapinea*

(15 - 18cm)

**15-20 million year gap**

**Triassic**

Grey or reddish, pebbly beds, some containing larger boulders. Deposited in desert canyons during flash-flooding events, caused by storms. No fossils in these beds.

*220 million years*



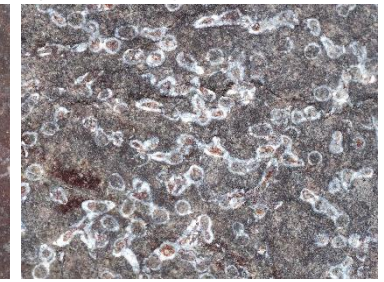
**Brachiopod shell**  
*Spirifer*

(up to 6cm)



**Solitary Rugose Coral**  
*Zaphrentis*

(2 - 3cm)



**Tabulate Coral**  
*Syringopora*

Colonies up to 25cm

**120 million year gap (or unconformity)**

**Carboniferous**

Most of the rocks at Ogmore are Carboniferous Limestones laid down in shallow, clear tropical seas when Wales was close to the equator. The rocks are mostly smooth and grey formed in obvious thick horizontal layers called beds. The fossils often show up better when the rocks are wet. Some fossils show damage caused by fierce storms.

*345 million years*



**Colonial Tabulate Coral**  
*Michelinia*

Colonies can be up to 20cm across, or appear as honeycomb-like sections.



**Solitary Rugose Coral**  
*Caninia*

Individuals can be up to 30cm long and 6cm across. Some show bending caused by storms.



**Gastropod shell**  
*Eomphalus*

(up to 6cm)



**Colonial Rugose Coral**  
*Solenodendron*

Colonies up to 30cm across.



**Trace fossils**  
*Zoophycus*

Feeding traces left by burrowing animals.