

HALF A BILLION YEARS IN THE MAKING

Welcome to the Discovery UNESCO Global Geopark. We are a collection of 27 communities with approximately 280 km of rugged coastline for you to discover. Flanked by Bonavista Bay and Trinity Bay, the coastal geology offers a unique opportunity to celebrate one of the most significant transitions in Earth's history: the Ediacaran Period, and its associated rise of animal life. With rocks over half a billion years old, our Geopark is host to some of the most spectacular and exceptionally preserved Ediacaran fossils anywhere in the world.

The Geopark also showcases its rich cultural heritage, local folklore, and traditions. The preservation of built heritage is evident throughout the region and many communities boasts buildings of architectural and historical significance including churches, lighthouses, fish flakes and stone root cellars.

Here you will find Provincial and National Historic Sites, internationally acclaimed hiking trails, accommodations, boat tours, galleries, kayaking, museums, theatres, restaurants, tea rooms and shops. While our economic development has historically been based on the fishery, today 25% of the economic diversity is tourism. Nature, culture, and history comes alive here and the Geopark is the perfect backdrop for artists, writers, photographers, theatre, film makers, culinary festivals, and visitors.



WHAT IS A GEOPARK?

UNESCO Global Geoparks are single, unified geographical areas, where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education, and sustainable development.



A UNESCO Global Geopark uses its geological heritage, in connection with all other aspects of the area's natural and cultural heritage, to enhance awareness and understanding of key issues, and uses best practices for economic development.



Together with our partners, we look to educate others about the sustainable use of our natural resources while exploring the connection between nature, local communities, and cultural heritage; in celebration of our region's uniqueness.

