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### ANTRIM GEOPARK

# What is a Geopark?

A UNESCO Global Geopark is an area of internationally important geological heritage.

The area is important for its scientific value, for its rarity, or for its educational purposes.



A Geopark is more than a stamp, logo or just a prestigious recognition. It is a management structure that is able to implement a wide array of actions and a well-planned marketing and development strategy.

# A Geopark Is not...

A Geopark is not a geological park, as some would assume

The word "Geo" comes from the Greek word "GAIA" meaning "mother earth".

Geoparks not only include geological heritage but include other aspects of heritage.



#### Not just about geology



Not a legislative designation



Not a permanent designation



## Where might the Geopark be?

The clue is in the name, the Geopark is proposed to include areas within County Antrim. Spanning from Portrush Town around the coast, taking in Rathlin Island and stretching south to Larne and possibly taking in Islandmagee.

This is a proposed area, it might change and is up to local communities and Councils to help shape where will be in the future Geopark areas.

This area includes some of the most geologically diverse landscapes on Earth. Over 650 million years of geological history are recorded in the rocks, landforms and landscapes.

## Potential Areas in the Geopark



Red Arch, Waterfoot, County Antrim



Glens of Antrim, County Antrim



West Strand, Portrush, County Antrim

# **Contact Us**

Please feel free to get in contact with us to let us know your thoughts on this aspiring Geopark, we would love to hear what you have to say! Or if you would like to find out more please contact us here:

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