



WERKFORUM



# FOSSILS ART CULTURE

A STROLL THROUGH THE HISTORY OF EARTH

WELCOME TO THE

# WERKFORUM & FOSSIL MUSEUM

The Werkforum is the communication and information centre of Holcim South Germany. It provides both a venue for building industry functions and cultural events and creates a connection from the company to the public. The fossils recovered from the oil shale that date back around 180 million years also make the Fossil Museum an inviting place to visit.

Fossil museums are archives of biodiversity. Over 3,000 exhibits are on display in our permanent exhibition and thousands more are preserved in the archive. They were recovered from the company's own quarries and are used by scientists to reconstruct the history of the Earth. These fossils provide fascinating insights into the ecosystems of times long past.





The cement plant uses limestone and oil shale as raw materials for cement production. Exceptionally well-preserved fossils are brought to light, especially during the mining of the 180 million year old oil shale (Posidonia Shale, Lower Jurassic). Specialists search out, recover and prepare these fossilised finds and analyse them scientifically. Without the mining of the oil shale this 'fossil treasure trove' would not exist.

Fossilised marine creatures from the oil shale of Dotternhausen and Dormettingen form the main focus of the Fossil Museum. A museum tour also offers exciting insights into the entire Jurassic period from approximately 200 to 145 million years ago. The permanent exhibition displays numerous spectacular finds from the Dotternhausen area.



COME ALONG. FIND OUT. GET INVOLVED.

# FOSSILISED LIFE VIBRANTLY CONVEYED

**BE CURIOUS!** There is so much interesting and exciting information about rocks, raw materials, fossils, and minerals. These treasures beneath our feet are waiting to be discovered! That is why science-related museum educational activities have been part of the children's programme at the Werkforum for many years, contributing to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals.

**AWAKENING A PLAYFUL APPROACH TO LEARNING AND A SPIRIT OF RESEARCH:** Together, we take a look behind the scenes of the museum, visit the preparation workshop, identify rocks and fossils, explore the museum at night, and discover the Jurassic Sea! Current offers for children aged 6 to 14 can be found at: [holcim-sued.de/de/werkforum/kinderprogramm](https://holcim-sued.de/de/werkforum/kinderprogramm)

**“EARTH STORIES” IN THE CLASSROOM:**

The school curriculum offers numerous references to geology. The landscape and earth history of our region are particularly easy to illustrate, as different types of rock can be found right on our doorstep, bearing witness to a varied past. Baden-Württemberg is a rock-rich land – raw materials are extracted and used directly in the region. We offer teachers training courses on the topics of geology, paleontology, raw materials, recultivation, and sustainable construction.





## SCHOOL CLASSES TAKE PART IN A MUSEUM RALLY

We have prepared a museum rally for pupils aged 9 to 11 and 12 to 14. They can explore the geological history of the Jurassic period in the museum. This is most fun when done together, and the children learn interesting facts from the museum at their own pace. The quiz can be obtained from us on request before your visit.

SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS

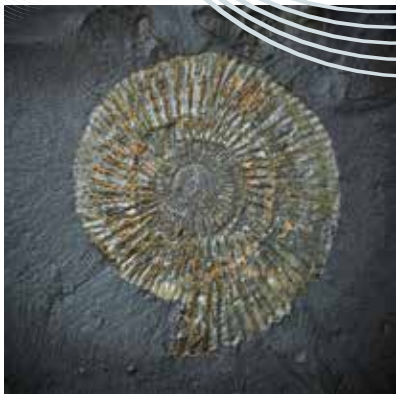
4 QUALITY  
EDUCATION





DISCOVER THE

# JURASSIC SEA





#### **TINY BUT MIGHTY!**

Rocks, minerals, thin sections, and fossils open up new worlds under the microscope. Various samples are available at the reception desk. Feel free to ask!

## **180 MILLION YEARS IN ONE HOUR**

The dark oil shale is a world-famous fossil deposit with a long history of research, as hardly any other rock has stored such a wealth of information. The expert museum guides explain how the oil shale was formed and what Holcim produces from it.

**Free public guided tour: every first Tuesday of the month.  
Start time: 6:00 pm. Duration: approx. 1 hour.**

Bring along your family, friends and colleagues.

Guided tours for groups available. Please phone to arrange.

**Information:** Telephone +49 (0) 7427 79-211. **Costs:** 60 €.

**What have I found here?** After the guided tour you have the opportunity to have your fossil finds expertly assessed. What have I found here? How old is this fossil?



**Industrieverband Steine und Erden  
Baden-Württemberg e.V.**



#### **A CASE FULL OF STONES – HANDS-ON EDUCATION**

To use in their lessons teachers can hire the 'GeoCase' from us free of charge. It contains not only samples of the main rock types of Baden-Württemberg, but also a USB stick with interesting teaching material. The GeoCase is an initiative of the ISTE.



# HOLIDAYS IN THE JURASSIC SEA

During the summer holidays, young researchers experience the geological and biological diversity of their district up close. Combined with a dash of adventure, the holiday project is always a very special experience for everyone involved. The playful combination of fossil hunting and discovering small creatures in quarries, streams, meadows, and forests sensitises children to the local natural environment. The Sparkasse Foundation Umwelt+Natur developed this special holiday program together with the Holcim Fossil Museum for children and young people aged 8 to 14.







The rocks of the Swabian Jurassic were formed millions of years ago and are now partly mined as raw materials. After mining, the quarries develop into species-rich biotopes. Biodiversity can be experienced not only in the current flora and fauna, but also in the abundance of fossils. On excursions, children learn about yellow-bellied toads and slow worms, as well as fossils from the Jurassic period while searching for fossils.



The "Holidays in the Jurassic Sea" project has twice been awarded the UN Decade Project for Biological Diversity in the "Social Nature" category.





# EXHIBITION SERIES

## FOSSIL COLLECTORS INTRODUCE THEMSELVES...

Special exhibitions are held regularly at the Werkforum. The exhibition series "Fossil Collectors Introduce Themselves" presents special finds and geological highlights from the region.

We offer fossil collectors a platform to exhibit their finds in the attractive surroundings of the Werkforum. These exhibitions are each opened with a specialist lecture, which attracts numerous fossil enthusiasts and experts.

Are you interested in presenting your finds at our venue? Please feel free to contact us!





**SELECTION FROM  
THE EXHIBITION SERIES**

**2025** Highlights from the Uwe Fidler  
Fossil Collection

**2020** Fossil Treasures from the  
Steinlach Valley by Elmar Scherer

**2019** Fossils of the Middle Triassic  
Muschelkalk by Gerald Stappenbeck &  
Norbert Wannenmacher

**2018** Fossil Fish from the Posidonia  
Shale by Kai Schubert

**2017** Treasures from limestone, silver,  
and graphite by Horst Kuschel



# ART & CULTURE

ARE PART OF WHO WE ARE ...





... LIKE CEMENT, GAVEL & CONCRETE.

#### **WORTH SEEING...**

Regularly changing art exhibitions constantly give the Werkforum a different look. Pictures, objects or sculptures by established artists become eye-catching exhibits, enticing visitors to study the works more deeply.

#### **WORTH HEARING...**

The Werkforum sometimes transforms into a 'concert hall'. Classical music, jazz or a cappella songs: out to the ordinary, sometimes even unknown sounds, but always worth listening to, regularly fill our building. Young up-and-coming musicians find a stage here as do well-known ensembles.

#### **WORTH EXPERIENCING...**

The programme of events attracts both members of the public from the neighbouring communities and interested visitors from all over the region to the Werkforum. It facilitates valuable meetings. The concerts, art exhibitions and talks have long since become popular events.

**[www.werkforum.de](http://www.werkforum.de)**

# FROM RAW MATERIAL TO BUILDING MATERIAL

## WELCOME TO OUR WORLD

Of course, in our Werkforum you will also learn about what we do. The 3D landscape model, flow chart, and touchscreen in the entrance hall will provide you with information about raw materials, substitute fuels, cement production, and our products. Whether for large or small projects, Holcim employees provide customised solutions for builders, architects, engineers, and craftsmen – combined with a clear vision for sustainable, CO<sub>2</sub>-reduced construction, resource efficiency, and material cycles. With our products such as cement, aggregates, ready-mix concrete, we deliver solutions and products for the major challenges in our society: creating spaces for living and working, building infrastructure, facilitating mobility, securing energy supplies, and realising innovations. Our mission **“BUILD BETTER WITH LESS”** guides the decision we make in our company.







**A PLATFORM FOR THOSE INVOLVED IN CONSTRUCTION: Architects, engineers, concrete specialists ...** Our programme includes lectures, training courses, panel discussions, and specialist events for everyone who shapes the construction industry. This includes presentation events on sustainability and energy, exposed and recycled concrete, architecture, and training sessions for concrete specialists.





## SCHIEFER ERLEBNIS

Dormettingen



### EXPERIENCE. DISCOVER. RELAX.

Oil shale is a valuable and significant raw material for the Dotterenhäuser cement plant. Until the year 2000 it was mined on the site between the cement plant and the village of Dormettingen.

In the former mining area, a unique landscape was created in a joint project between Holcim and the municipality of Dormettingen, funded by the EU and the state of Baden-Württemberg.





Here the theme of oil shale is explored in all its facets: from geology to the history of the earth and landscape, from raw material to building material, from cement to concrete recycling, from mining to recultivation, and from million-year-old fossils to today's flora and fauna.

You can expect attractions such as the quarry playground, the oil shale lake, the restaurant Schieferhaus with its lakeside terrace, the fossil rummage site with preparation facilities and an open-air stage in the shape of an ammonite, an ideal venue for open-air cinema, concerts, and theatre performances.

A memorial trail outside the park provides information about the oil shale quarrying at the end of World War II. The connection to the Schlichem trail takes you over a idyllic wooden walkway. In this semi-open grazing land the preciousness of the landscape and the large abundance of species can be revered. Well-managed grazing with donkeys, sheep, and goats keeps the terrain open – a prerequisite for great biodiversity.

Schiefererlebnis 1 - 72358 Dormettingen

#### Information **SCHIEFERERLEBNIS**

info@schiefererlebnis.de  
www.schiefererlebnis.de

#### Restaurant **SCHIEFERHAUS**

info@schieferhaus.de  
www.schieferhaus.de  
+49 (0) 7427 9472903

 @schiefererlebnis  
@schieferhaus

A project by  **HOLCIM**  
and the municipality of Dormettingen

Supported by:

  
**Baden-Württemberg**  
MINISTERIUM FÜR LÄNDLICHEN RAUM UND VERBRAUCHERSCHUTZ



# WITH HAMMER & CHISEL

... IN SEARCH OF WITNESSES OF TIME

It's not just children who enjoy discovering the 180-million-year-old fossils! Ammonites, belemnites, and shells are very common in the oil shale as well as pyrite (fools gold). To search for fossils, you can burrow hammers, chisels, and safety goggles. The information boards directly at the rummage site provide instructions on the correct technique for fossil hunting and interesting facts about the most common finds.

**EVERY FOSSIL IS UNIQUE** – some are even heritage protected and must be reported. Feel free to ask us for more information. Be careful and take a close look at the rock slabs before splitting them. You can find lots of interesting facts about the fossils of the Jurassic Sea in the permanent exhibition at our fossil museum.









**CONCERTS**

**EXHIBITIONS**

**CULTURE**

**TRAINING COURSES**

**KIDS PROGRAMME**

**FOSSILS**

**LECTURES**

**GUIDED TOURS**

**ART**

**CONSTRUCTION**

**ARCHITECTURE**

**CONCRETE**



## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



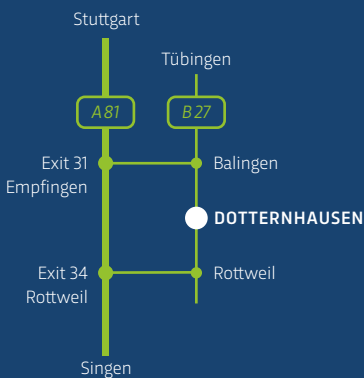
### 17 GOALS THAT WILL CHANGE OUR WORLD.

The United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are globally applicable priorities and targets set for 2030 to put the world on a sustainable course. Holcim is committed to both the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement. The climate goals that Holcim has set for itself worldwide are validated by the Science Based Target Initiative (SBTi). The SBTi was developed by an alliance of leading environmental and climate protection organisations to provide a framework that allows companies to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions on a scientific basis. We can only solve the economic, social, and environmental challenges of our time together - sustainable commitment accompanies us in our daily actions.



# WERKFORUM

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Fossils, Art & Culture



## WERKFORUM

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@holcim\_sued



Holcim Süddeutschland GmbH

## OPENING HOURS

Tuesday to Thursday: 1pm – 5pm,  
Sunday and public holiday: 11am – 5pm,  
Saturdays closed.

Closed from December 1<sup>st</sup> – January 6<sup>th</sup>.

## Public guided tour:

Every first Tuesday of the month  
at 6pm.

**ADMISSION IS FREE.**