



## COPPER COAST GEOPARK A story captured in stone

### INTRODUCTION

The Copper Coast European Geopark is located on the South East coast of Ireland, between Tramore and Dungarvan in County Waterford. It extends between Fenor in the east to Stradbally in the west and up to Dunhill in the north. It comprises 6 local communities: Fenor, Dunhill, Annestown, Boatstrand, Bunmahon and Stradbally. The Geopark gets its name from the 19<sup>th</sup> Century copper mining heritage.



The Copper Coast Geopark Information Point and the church, centre under development



Tankardstown 19<sup>th</sup> century mining complex



The geological garden in Bunmahon, presenting the rocks of the Copper Coast and a path through geological time



Summer guided walks with local guides trained by the Geopark



Education programmes

### EXHIBITIONS

The Copper Coast is an outdoor geology museum with a geological heritage that reflects a variety of environments under which the area has evolved over the last 460 million years. Sedimentary rocks and volcanics illustrate the closure of the Iapetus ocean, the subsequent volcanism, the collision of 2 continents leading to the creation of Ireland, a desert dissected by large rivers and the effects of glaciation during the Ice Age.

### EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Visit to primary schools, fieldtrips with secondary schools, team of local guides trained by the Geopark for summer walks, geology course, path through geological time in the geological garden

### OTHER ACTIVITIES

Conservation and landscaping of Tankardstown mining site. Interpretation of geology and mining history (panels and publications). Organisation of workshops all year long (flower arrangement, willow sculpture, basket making, seaweed seminar, seafood banquet with slow food movement...).

### PROJECTS

Collaboration with partners from NW Europe on tourism and education initiatives. Acquisition of a disused church building and plan to transform it into a new Geopark Centre to serve not only as a community and visitor centre, but also to offer a range of services and facilities, (i.e. bistro, educational facilities, archive/genealogical services).

### CONTACT

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