

Where are Dinosaur Eggs Found?

All Over the World

Since the first dinosaur eggs were identified early in the 20th century, fossil eggshells, whole eggs, and even young dinosaurs have proven to be much more common than previously realized. They have been found on nearly every continent, with China and Mongolia boasting perhaps the richest such fossil sites on Earth.

Preserved in Mudstone and Sandstone

How rapidly they are buried and the chemistry of surrounding soils affects the likelihood that dinosaur eggs will be fossilized. Some of the best conditions for fossilizing eggs occurred along ancient flood plains where periodic flooding buried dinosaur nests and hatchlings in alkaline mud. In arid landscapes, sandstorms quickly covered and preserved eggs, babies and even adult dinosaurs with their nests.

In Mesozoic Rocks

Dinosaurs first appeared on Earth 225 million years ago during the Triassic period, early in the Mesozoic Era. The oldest dinosaur eggs are known from Jurassic-age rocks in North America and Europe. The great majority of fossil eggs and baby dinosaurs have been discovered in sediments dating from the Late Cretaceous, near the end of the Mesozoic.



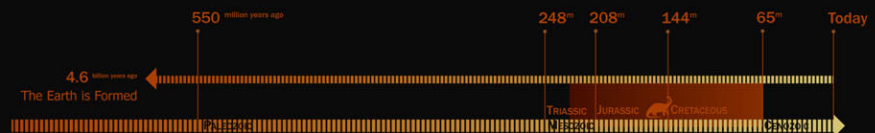
An Egg from Fossil-rich Mongolia

Photograph by Louie Psihoyos
This egg is one of hundreds found at Flaming Cliffs in southern Mongolia, one of the richest fossil hunting regions in the world.



Map of Dinosaur Egg Sites

Dinosaur eggs have been discovered at over 100 sites around the world. Some have also yielded the fossils of precious embryos and hatching dinosaurs.



**Professionally laminated, framed panel
41 x 41 inches**