

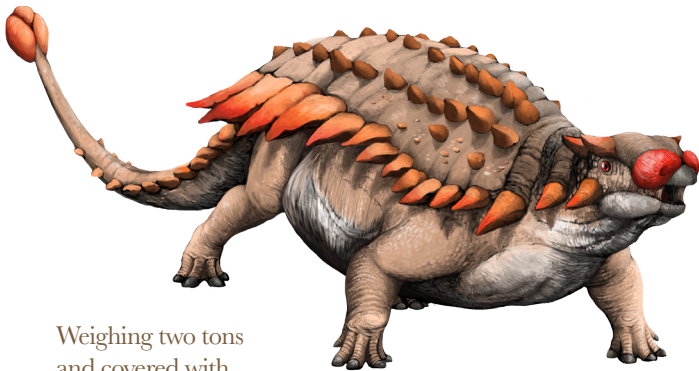
THE FLAMING CLIFFS

MONGOLIA'S FAMOUS FOSSIL BEDS

The Flaming Cliffs in the heart of the Gobi Desert are known worldwide for containing exceptional dinosaur fossils. The cliffs, the fossils, and the plants and animals who live nearby are protected by local government as part of Bayanzag Park. As you enjoy the park, please leave everything as you find it – for science, for the environment, and for Mongolia.

WHO LIVED HERE 80 MILLION YEARS AGO?

The time was the Late Cretaceous: the last era when dinosaurs ruled the earth. The Flaming Cliffs were sand dunes in a desert oasis, and many animals came here to hunt, forage, and raise their young. Meet three of them:



Weighing two tons and covered with spiky armor, *Pinacosaurus* was a formidable plant-eater first discovered at the Flaming Cliffs in 1923.

Protoceratops was the first dinosaur discovered in Mongolia, at the Flaming Cliffs in 1922. It ate plants and was about the size of a sheep.



Velociraptor, the sharp-clawed star of the Jurassic Park films, was discovered at the Flaming Cliffs in 1924. It was two meters from head to tail, feathery like a bird, and hunted other animals – including *Protoceratops*.



A DELICATE LIVING ECOSYSTEM

The Gobi Desert is home to animals and plants that live nowhere else. Follow these rules to keep Bayanzag's living ecosystem from going extinct like the dinosaurs:

Never damage plants or collect wood.

Never feed or harm wildlife.

Take your trash with you when you leave.



FOUND A FOSSIL?

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2
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Leave it alone. Fossils lose scientific data and can easily be destroyed if moved. Plus, removing fossils without a permit is illegal.

If it's more than a small fragment, notify the local officials of Umnugovi Aimag.

Also notify the ISMD at MongolianDinosaurs.org. Take a photo and describe the location. Be careful who you share the location with; fossil poaching is common in the Gobi.



Information provided by Institute for the Study of Mongolian Dinosaurs, a registered nonprofit, nongovernment organization based in the United States and Mongolia.
MongolianDinosaurs.org