

# Chengjiang Fossil Site, People's Republic of China

## Facts

- Recommended by IUCN for inscription on the World Heritage List in June 2012 at the World Heritage Committee in Saint Petersburg, Russia, as it is one of the most important palaeontological sites in the world and conserves many fossil remains of exceptional significance.
- These fossils are of great scientific importance, as they give valuable insight about the early Cambrian period (530 million years ago), a key period of rapid diversification of species and evolutionary development of life on Earth.
- The exceptional paleontological record of rare anatomical detail and beauty includes fossils from 152 different species. Many of these species, especially the soft-bodied ones, are unique to this fossil site.
- The Chengjiang site is located in the Yunnan Province of China in the villages of Ercaicun and Chengjiang near the city of Kunming.

## Quote

*The fossils and rocks that can be found at The Chengjiang Fossil Site are a globally exceptional record of the roots of biodiversity present the most complete record of an early Cambrian marine community”* says **Tim Badman, Director of IUCN’s World Heritage Programme.**

## Media contact

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## Photos

Please visit: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/iucnweb/sets/72157630048175463/show> Please note the images are can only be used to illustrate press releases in relation to IUCN’s recommendations to the World Heritage Committee.



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