

Template for case studies

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Summary of Case study	THE JURASSIC MUSEUM OF ASTURIAS
Organisations concerned	Council Of Culture, Social Communication And Tourism Of Asturias
Case study detail	<p>The Jurassic Museum of Asturias is located in the borough of Colunga. It stands on a rise in the ground that provides magnificent views of the region's western coastline. The first outstanding feature of the museum that you notice is from the outside as you take in the seascape that extends before you.</p> <p>Its striking architecture – the building is in the shape of a three-pronged dinosaur footprint - is its second outstanding feature. Inside, it is equally spectacular, with spacious, well-lit areas that house a major era of life on planet earth: the Mesozoic, including the Jurassic period, when dinosaurs roamed the Earth. There are very big replicas, like the Gigantosaurus, an example of the fauna of Argentina and the largest of the carnivorous dinosaurs that we know of, and the Deinonychus (terrible claw), a Jurassic animal related to the bird family and a paradigm of the predators.</p> <p>The total surface area of the museum is 5,000</p>

square metres, divided between the first floor, ground floor and basement. The ground floor and the first floor are divided into three main areas coinciding with the three time divisions of the Messozoic (the Cretaceous, Jurassic and Triassic). The basement houses 400 tons of fossils from the Jurassic Coast in Asturias, waiting to be catalogued and then exhibited in the museum. The first floor has spaces for temporary exhibitions, a waiting room, services for the public, private areas for Museum administration and management, general storerooms, workshops and the building's general facilities. It is also home to the museum's collection of exhibits, a library, a laboratory, research facilities and areas to work on paleontological material. Then, there is also the hall and the audiovisual room with an exhibition room that is being set up with photographic, written and fossil exhibits.

A 100-seater lecture theatre is planned so that the Jurassic Museum of Asturias can provide a range of scientific and educational services: 2-D and 3-D cinema, multimedia, slide shows and all the facilities required for courses, seminars and round tables. There are three other exhibition rooms on the first floor.

The Jurassic Museum of Asturias' founding **collection** is made up of 8,000 fossil samples exclusively from the Jurassic period in Asturias. The exhibition is structured around four main nuclei: dinosaur tracks, remains of vertebrates, plant remains and invertebrate's elements