

The **Museo Giardino geologico “Sandra Forni”** is open  
from **7.30 am** to **7.00 pm**.

Visitors can enjoy free access to the site, but are kindly  
requested to show some formal identification at the  
welcome desk before beginning their visit.

Guided tours are available for groups and school  
groups, subject to prior arrangement with the Admin  
Office of the Geological Survey  
phone **051-5274792**

e-mail [seggeol@regione.emilia-romagna.it](mailto:seggeol@regione.emilia-romagna.it)



[facebook.com/museogiardinogeologico](https://facebook.com/museogiardinogeologico)



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<http://ambiente.regione.emilia-romagna.it/geologia>

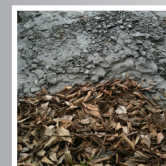
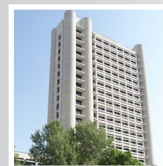
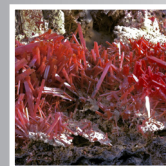
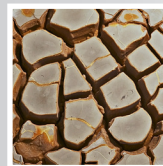
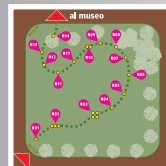


Department for territorial safety, soil and  
coastal defence, civil defence  
Soil and Coastal Defence Executive



# MUSEO GIARDINO GEOLOGICO

Sandra Forni





## THE EARTH REVEALED

The Museo Giardino geologico “Sandra Forni” is a project set up by the Geological, Seismic and Soil Survey (SGSS) of Emilia-Romagna Region to provide a space dedicated to the culture of the territory.

The project is developed across two distinct spaces, the museum and the garden, and sets out to illustrate the outstanding beauty of the landscape of Emilia-Romagna and its remarkably rich geo-diversity.

Thus, the collection amassed by the SGSS over the course of thirty years of activity is presented as our common heritage. In the geological garden the large boulders donated by active quarries tell the story of the geological history of the Apennines; in the museum, the principal elements of Earth Sciences are illustrated by rocks, fossils and minerals from around the world.

Amongst other exhibits, the museum houses several magnificent specimens of gypsum and sulphur from Sicily, a collection of gypsum from Emilia-Romagna, ammonites from Morocco, plus rare examples of black quartz which have been donated or acquired by collectors and originate from mines that are now for the most part closed. The Museum exhibition begins with the fossils section, followed by a section that illustrates the great variety of naturally occurring soils in the region. It proceeds with a section that illustrates the fundamental stages in the geology of Emilia-Romagna through four rock complexes (ophiolites, argille scagliose, turbiditic sandstone and gypsum) which are also exhibited in the garden. The exhibition is also designed to appeal to children, with a special, dedicated section in the lower part of each display case.

In the grounds outside, the Geological Garden offers visitors the chance to stroll around and enjoy a virtual journey back through geological time. The itinerary winds its way past 14 separate stations where rocks are entrusted with the task of recounting a significant part of the geological history of our region; a history which, starting some 250 million years ago, led to the formation of the Apennines, the Po Plain and the Adriatic coast.

*The Museo Giardino geologico is named in honour of esteemed SGSS collaborator, Sandra Forni, who died prematurely in 2005.*