

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE

Italy

The Dolomites consist of dolostone rock.

- The principal chemical forming the rocks is calcium magnesium carbonate
- Dolomite becomes a type of marble when geological processes subject it to heat and pressure.



In north-east Italy.

- Location:



Dolomite mineral is calcium magnesium carbonate with a chemical composition of $\text{CaMg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$.

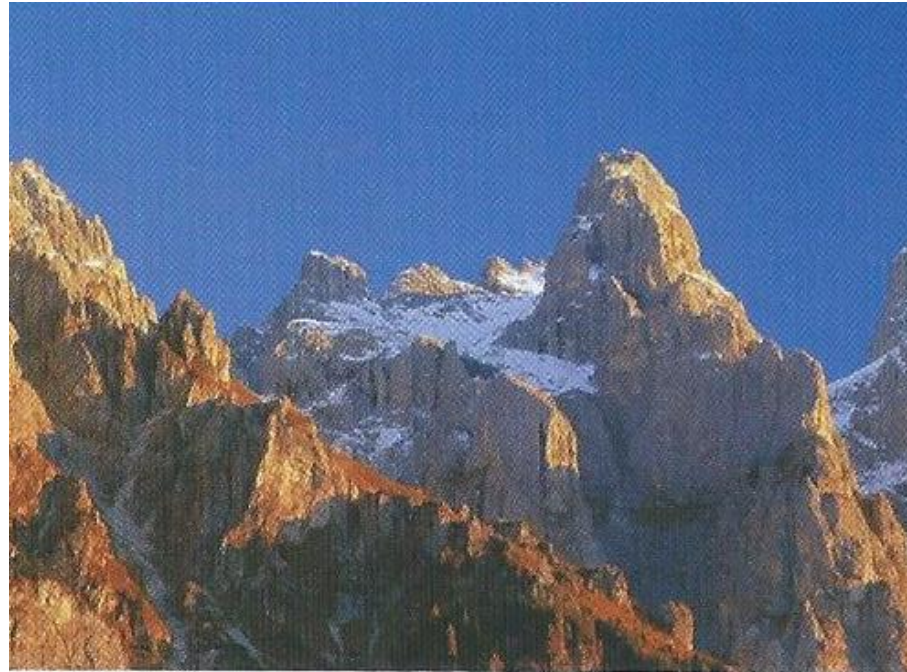
- Dolomite" is a word that is used by geologists in two different ways:
- 1) as the name of the mineral dolomite; and,
- 2) as the name of a rock known as dolomite, dolostone or dolomite rock.

- Dolomite mineral crystals.



The Pala Group: Monte Agner.

- This group is home to some of the most famous climbing, hiking and mountaineering activities.



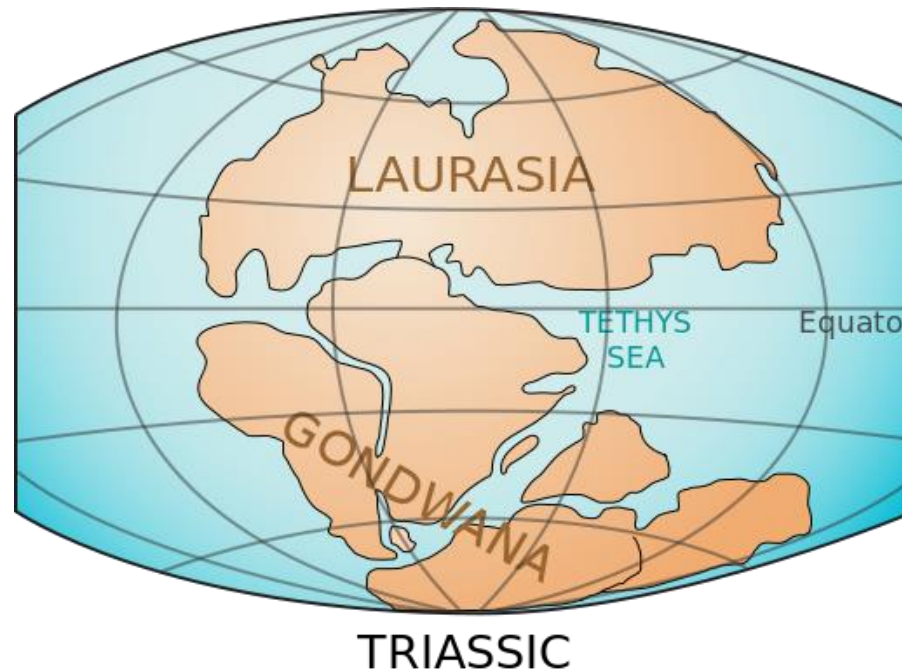
Beneath the sea at one time.

- The Dolomites were a massive coral reef in the primeval Tethys Sea of Mesozoic Era(next slide), about 250 mya.
- The Brenta group contains traces of the reef.



The first stage of the formation of the Tethys Sea.

- The Tethys Sea was an ocean that existed between the continents of Gondwana and Laurasia during much of the Mesozoic era, before the opening of the Indian and Atlantic oceans during the Cretaceous period



The Marmolada Glacier, on the Northern side of The Marmolada Mountain (= marble-like).

- Ghiacciaio Marmolada (glacier) is the only glacier in the Dolomites.



Divider slide.



The Sassi di Matera (meaning "stones of Matera") are ancient cave dwellings in the city of Matera.

- Italy.



The Sassi are among the first prehistoric human settlements in Italy.

- Troglodytes



Situated in the old town, they are composed of the Sasso Caveoso and the later Sasso Barisano.

- Many of these "houses" are really only caverns, and the streets in some parts of the Sassi often are located on the rooftops of other houses.



Riddled with malaria, the unsanitary conditions were considered an affront to the nation.

- In the 1950s, the government of Italy forcefully relocated most of the population of the Sassi to areas of the developing modern city.



There are a number of churches.

Sasso Caveoso.



Sasso Barisano.



Church of St. Pietro Caveoso



The houses have been used in films as scenes to simulate old Jerusalem.

- Until the late 1980s this was considered an area of poverty, since these houses were, and in most areas still are, mostly uninhabitable.
- Current local administration, however, has become more tourism-oriented, and has promoted the re-generation of the Sassi with the aid of the European Union, the government, UNESCO, and Hollywood.
- Today there are many thriving sssssbusinesses, pubs, and hotels.



Divider slide.



The Nuragic civilization was a civilisation of Sardinia (Italy), from 1800 BCE to the 2/300CE.

- Location:



Ancient towers.

- A nuraghe (plural: Nuraghi) is a truncated cone shaped monumental tower, made of huge stones roughly worked.



There are more than 7,000 examples of Nuraghi on Sardinia.

- A nuraghe might stand as a single tower, or several nuraghi might be joined together as a complex of many towers with connecting structures and walls.



Uncertainty about the purpose of the towers.

- There has long been controversy among scholars.
- Theories about their use have included social, military, religious, and astronomical roles, or as furnaces, but, according to some sources, a majority now agree that they were defensible home sites that included barns and silos.



Nuraghi are considered by scholars to be the most impressive expression of the Nuragic civilization.

- Model of Nuragic ship. Cagliari, Museo Archeologico Nazionale.



The Nuragic civilization was probably based on tribes, each led by a chief.

- It is thought that they lived in structures similar to modern pinnettas of the Barbagia shepherds.
- Barbagia is in the heart of Sardinia.



Another example.

A different roof material.



Tribes in Ancient Roman times.

- Nuragic tribes, listed in order of (Roman) province or the general area in which they lived. Some closely fit the concept of a tribe.
- Others are confederations or even unions of tribes: Balari, Iolei.



Not surprising that similar buildings found on adjacent islands.

- Torréen on Corsica.



Sardinia: Bronze sculpture of a warrior with four eyes (and four arms?).

- Significance unknown.



On Sardinia before the Nuragic tribes

- Pre-nuragic complex of Monte d'Accoddi.

