

Two new major dinosaurs discovered in the Alpes-de-Haute-Provence. A cousin of the T-Rex and a new species of ankylosaurus.

In magnificent, sometimes lunar landscapes, Luc Ebbo, a self-taught palaeontologist, has established his hunting ground. Since a young age, he has explored the blue marls of the Albian in search of the paleontological treasures they conceal.

In 2019, he discovered the specimen of his life: a baby dinosaur, a close cousin of the Tyrannosaurs, which includes the famous T-Rex. After many years of preparation, it will be revealed for the very first time to the world on **June 8, 2024**. Never before has such a theropod been discovered in Europe. But another extraordinary specimen will also be presented, a 4.5m Ankylosaurus, probably a new species currently being determined.

French and foreign scientists accompany Luc on his adventure...





Luc and his discovery



Skull

“BABY T-REX”

Fact sheet

Name: New species currently being described by scientists.

Year of discovery: in 2019 in the town of Barret-sur-Méouge, in the Hautes-Alpes department.

Period: Valanginian, Lower Cretaceous (± 120 Ma).

Size of the living animal: 1.60 m in length and 1 m in height.

Description: juvenile dinosaur, which is extremely rare, unknown until today in Europe.

Fossil Condition: 80% complete specimen with one of the best preserved skulls ever discovered (90% complete).



Positioning the mandible



Skeleton



Bony plates covering the skeleton

ANKYLOSAUR

Fact sheet

Scientific name: Ankylosaurus sp.

Year of discovery: 2012 in the Alpes-de-Haute-Provence department.

Period: Albian, Lower Cretaceous (± 100 Ma).

Size of the living animal: 4.5m in length and 1.20m in height.

Description: caparisoned dinosaur with almost 400 bony plates covering its skeleton. A Cretaceous armored vehicle.

Condition of the fossil: first almost complete specimen discovered in France (70% of the skeleton and 95% of the armor). 5 years in the making, currently being studied by scientists, most likely a new species. 3D base.



Basement in progress



ICHTHYOSAUR

In addition to these two new specimens, a large 8.5m Ichthyosaur from the collection will take pride of place in the ShowRoom, for the first time pedestaled in 3D.

Fact sheet

Name : Ichthyosaurus sp.

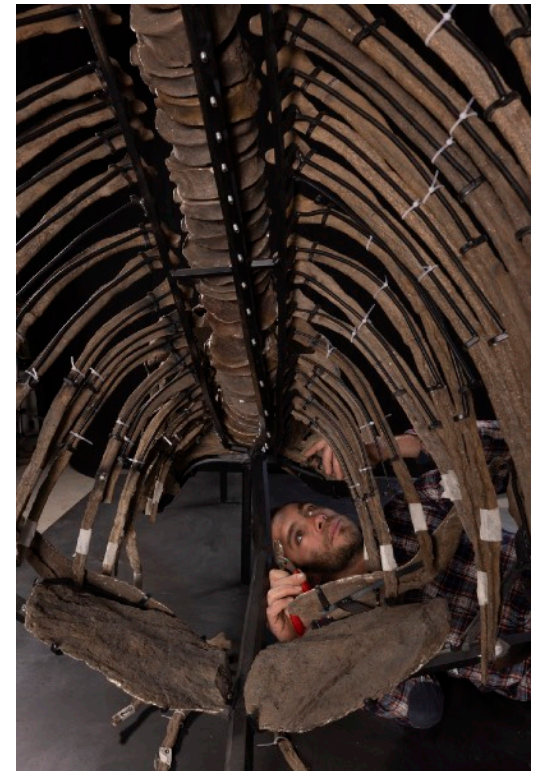
Year of discovery : 2000 in the Drôme department.

Period: Aptian, Lower Cretaceous (± 90 Ma).

Size of the living animal: 8.5 m long and 3 m high.

Description : marine reptile that looks like a dolphin but with 4 fins and a tail.

Condition of the fossil: approximately 60% complete, the largest specimen in the world for the Cretaceous period. 6 years of preparation. Original based in 3D for the first time.



Basement in progress

Beyond these discoveries, Luc Ebbo has collected an impressive number of fossils of all kinds: plants, echinoderms, cephalopod molluscs, crustaceans, fish, turtles, crocodilians and other marine reptiles. More than 500 specimens removed from their stone matrix and another 1000 to be extracted.

Luc in a few figures

- 48 years old
- Has been passionate about fossils since the age of 5 thanks to his grandfather.
- From 2000 to 2006, School Teacher.
- More than 40 years of prospecting and fossil preparations.
- 10,000 outings in nature for 100,000 km of walking.
- For good harvests, backpack from 50 kg up to 80 kg.
- Estimated 100 tons of stones carried on his back.
- Aesthetic research in its preparations with a sense of life and an artistic sensitivity without concessions to scientific requirements.
- Longest preparation: 6000 hours for a giant marine cemetery composed mainly of ammonites.
- Prospections based on a systematic grid of the Lower Cretaceous levels of the Vocontian Basin, a marine depositional zone which extended from the Marseille region in the south to Grenoble in the north and limited to the east and west. West by the Alps and the Rhône valley.
- Discovery of around a hundred new species, many of which have not yet been prepared. Around twenty have been described, including 15 holotypes, some of which bear his name.