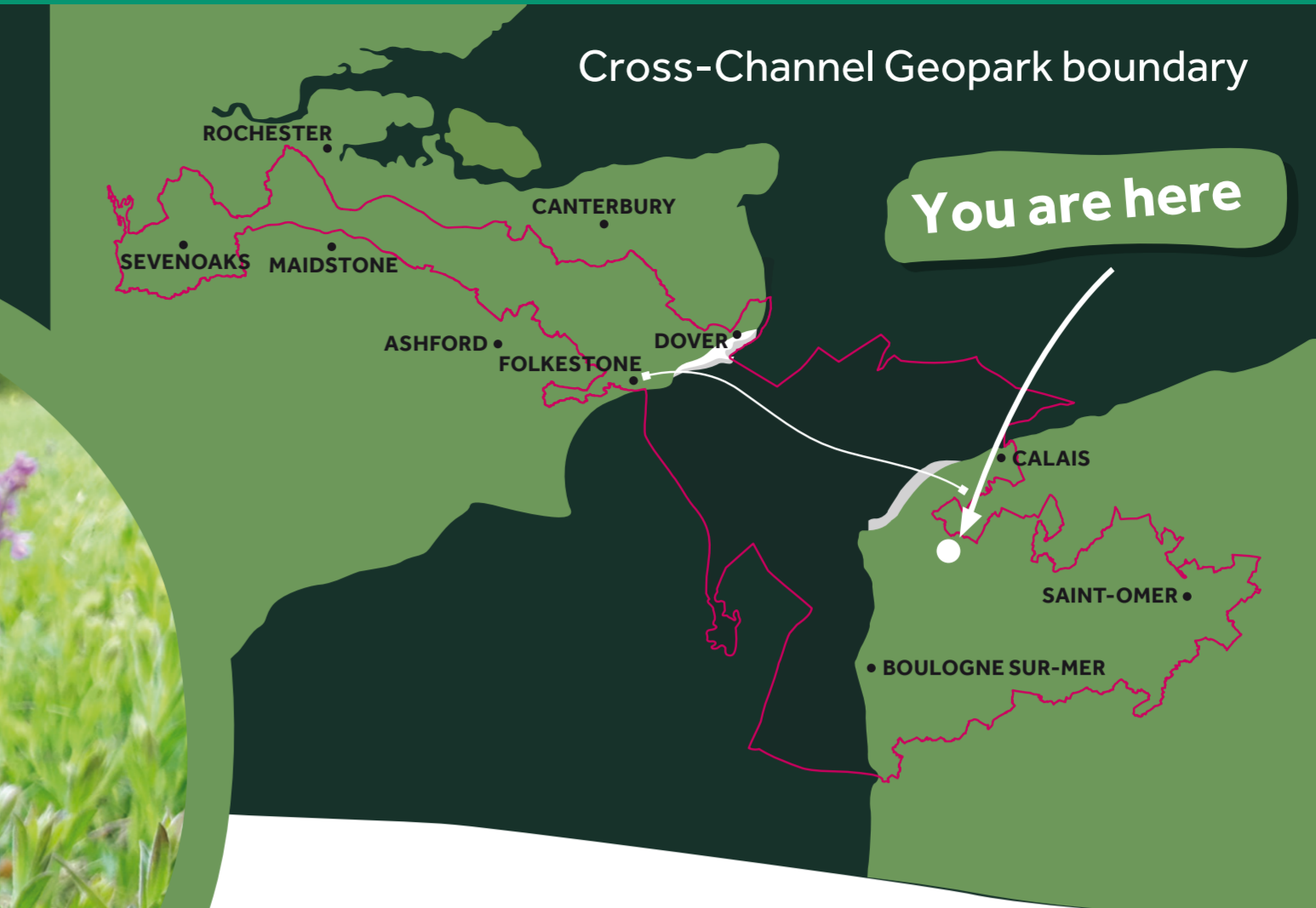


Parisienne quarry



The story of the limestone from the Parisienne Quarry dates back over 380 million years!

Where does this limestone come from?

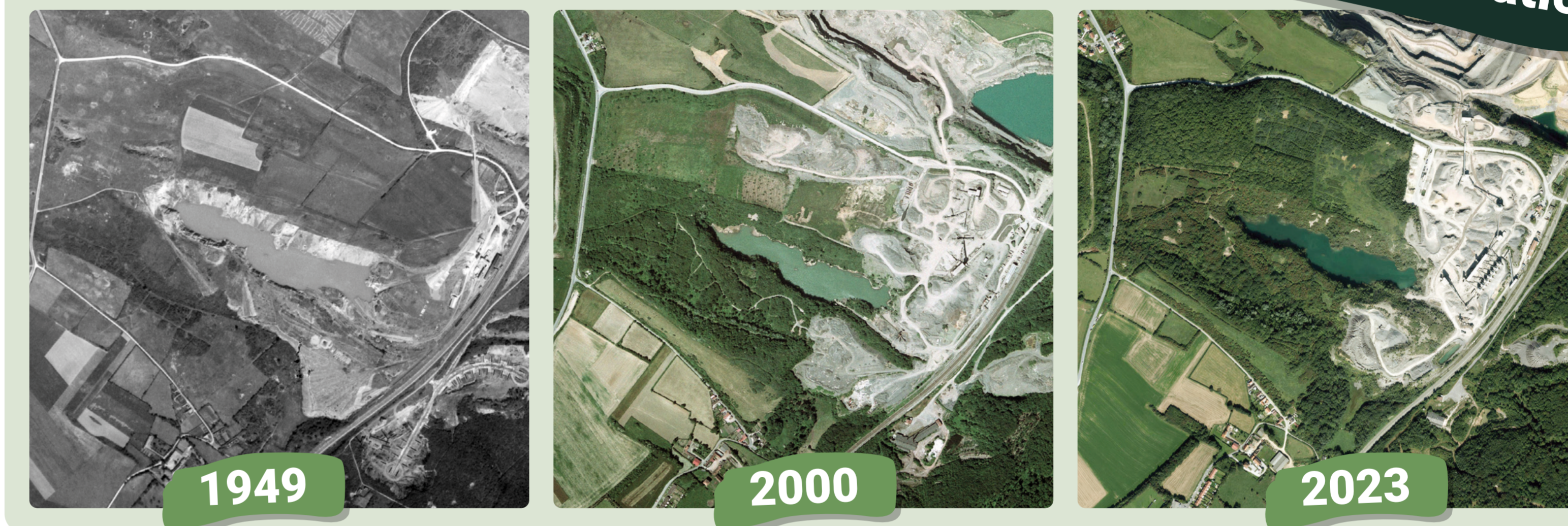
The Parisienne Quarry, exploited until 1947 for its limestone, revealed marine fossils dating back 380 million years, providing evidence of a warm, shallow sea during the Middle Devonian period. This site offers valuable insights into the geology of the Marquise Basin.

Nature quickly reclaimed its rights

The end of quarrying activities allowed the groundwater table to rise to the surface, forming the "lake" that can be seen below. Over the last 60 years plants have recolonised this site, thanks to the efforts of Stinkal.

An undeniable before-and-after transformation

Look around the quarry to witness how nature has reclaimed the area over the past 75 years.



A privileged habitat for a wide diversity of wild plants

Covering an area of 35 hectares, the Parisienne Quarry is now home to a remarkable diversity of habitats that shelter a wide array of animal and plant species, some of which are rare and endangered.

Woodlands, thickets, water bodies, and marl meadows provide habitats for exceptional biodiversity!

Notably, wild orchids such as Marsh Helleborine and the Green-winged Orchid thrive here, along with other rare plants like Hart's-tongue Fern, Wood Vetch, and Dyer's Broom.



A wildlife haven

The site is a vital refuge for wildlife. In addition to providing shelter for many mammals, the Parisienne Quarry is of notable ornithological interest. In spring, birds such as warblers, Yellowhammers, and Nightingales fill the site with song. At night, the quarry becomes the domain of the Eurasian Eagle-Owl.



Amphibians also take advantage of the ponds dug on-site for breeding, including the Spotted Pelodyte and Spotted Salamander.

In summer, a wealth of insect life abounds, including many butterflies such as the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary and the Common Blue.

Adding to this, the inventory of fungi makes the Parisienne Quarry one of the most important natural heritage sites in the Boulogne region.



Preserving a rich geological and natural heritage

Management by the Caps et Marais d'Opale Regional Natural Park, supported by Stinkal, aims to protect the site's geological and natural heritage, in line with the 1994–2044 Marquise Basin Landscape Plan. Management actions include maintaining open habitats through eco-grazing and clearing, balanced with the growth of thickets and woodlands.



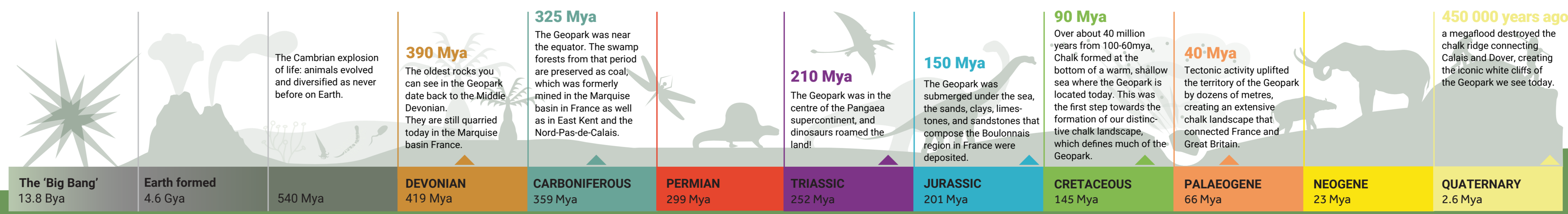
The Stinkal Quarry is a remarkable geological site, designated as a "geosite" within the Cross-Channel Geopark, an initiative led by the Parc naturel régional des Caps et Marais d'Opale (France) and the Kent Downs National Landscape (England). This initiative is part of efforts to promote and recognize the geological heritage of our region and gain UNESCO Global Geopark status.

STINKAL

This project is co-funded by the Green Fund.



This is a Cross-Channel Geopark Geosite



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