

VOLCANOES



Ancient volcanoes formed special landscapes of the Geopark. Many of our coastal headlands are ancient volcanoes. Volcanoes erupt igneous rock (fire rock) at the surface of the earth.

Below are two examples:

Cape Wanbrow

- Where: Oamaru
- When: between 34 - 38 million years ago
- What: started as an under-the-sea volcano
- During eruptive periods the volcano got larger
- Active eruptive periods were separated by long timespans with no volcanic activity. During these quieter times, the volcano was subject to erosion and became a home for sea life. The bryozoans that made up this sea life eventually formed our famous limestone



Puketapu

- Where: Palmerston
- What: Part of the Dunedin Volcanic Group (DVG)
- When: There is no known date for eruptions at Puketapu, however, volcanoes belonging to the DVG were active from around 9 - 25 million years ago

