

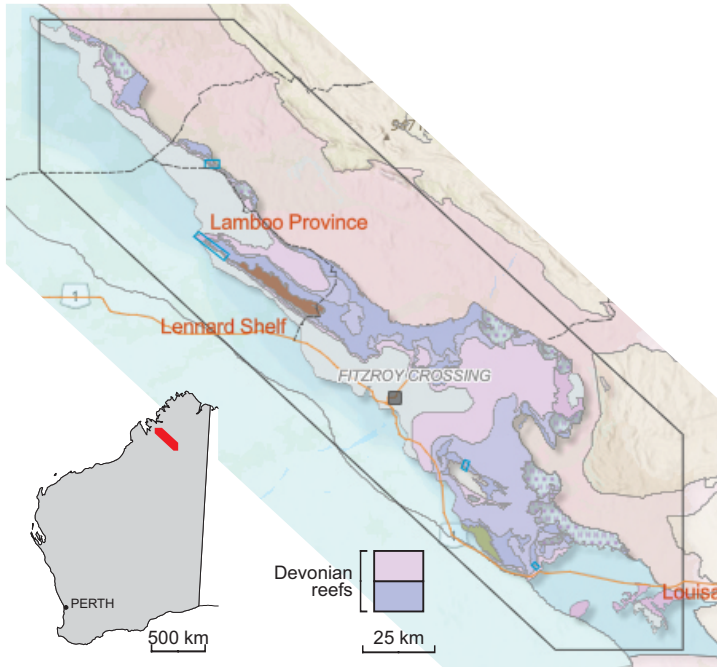
## Western Australia's fossil great barrier reef

This online product is published by the Geological Survey of Western Australia in the Geology Explorer series.

About 375 million years ago, the remote northern region of Western Australia was home to an extensive barrier reef system that would rival today's Great Barrier Reef. The reefs flourished for nearly 23 million years... then they died. Only the ghosts of the reefs remain – a rugged limestone range that marks the southern gateway to the spectacular Kimberley region.

Few fossil reef systems are as well preserved as this **Devonian great barrier reef**. What was it like? How did it change over time? What creatures thrived here? How and why did it die?

Using interactive maps, photos, video, map tours and richly coloured imagery, this StoryMap explores the structure of the reef, how it evolved, the environment in which it thrived, the creatures that built it, and the processes that formed today's limestone range.



▲ Location of Devonian reefs in Western Australia



Mcnamaraspis kaprios, ▲ adopted in 1995 as Western Australia's fossil emblem and immortalized on a postage stamp released in 1997



▲ Panorama of Windjana Gorge from Mirrurgurrwalla to the west entrance, viewed from near Mandjalar Pass.



▲ Aerial view of the Napier Range (Devonian reef) at Windjana Gorge looking northwest

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Free (online): <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/ca4ba29c786b499f8c32d278d83bf1ab>



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