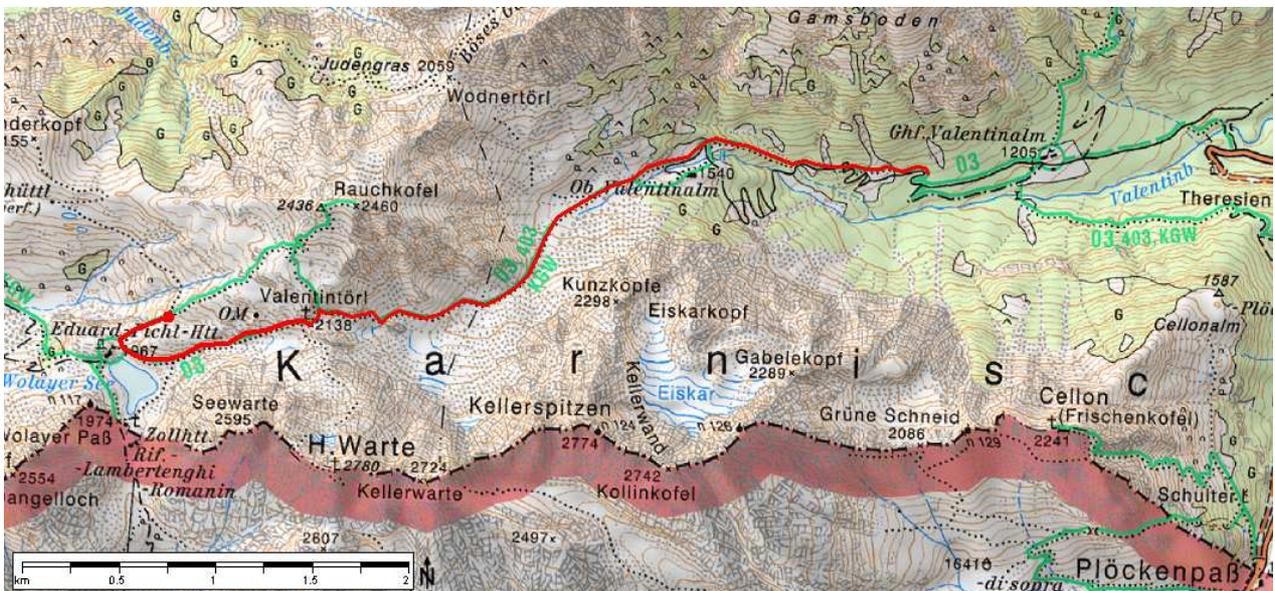


Geotope 49: Rauchkofel-Boden 1 – Limestones with Tiny Inclusions



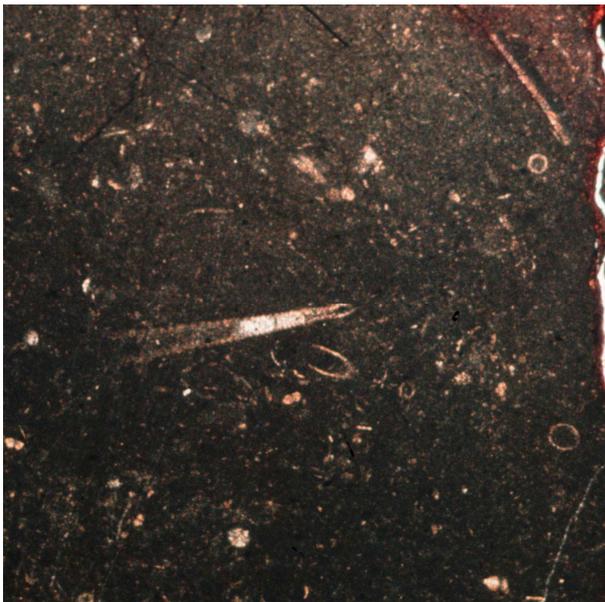
Red marking: Hiking route according to advance description; green tracks: hiking trails; ©BEV: Federal Office for Calibration and Measurement, 2005.

Access:

The trail starts either from Untere Valentinalm to Lake Wolayer or from the Lesach Valley through the Wolayer Valley to Wolayer Hut. At the hut a marked trail deviates to the summit of Rauchkofel and passes the Geotope at an altitude of some 2,100 m.

Description of the Geotope

On its right side the trail to mountain Rauchkofel is accompanied by reddish flaser limestones and reddish calcareous shales and marls. After the main occurrence of these rocks at mountain Findenig more to the east, these rocks were named Findenig Formation. They were deposited in an open sea far from the coast ("Rheic Ocean"). The sea was mainly inhabited by microscopic planktonic animals like conodonts, radiolarians, ostracods, foraminifera and the peculiar cone-shaped dacryconarids. By means of a lense rounded cross sections of dacryconarids can be seen in the rocks, the longitudinal sections, however, show distinct constrictions. Though these fossil remains are rather small, they still serve as excellent time-markers to subdivide this more or less uniform limestone sequence.



Photomicrograph of red limestones of the Findenig Formation showing a longitudinal section of a dacryconarid species.