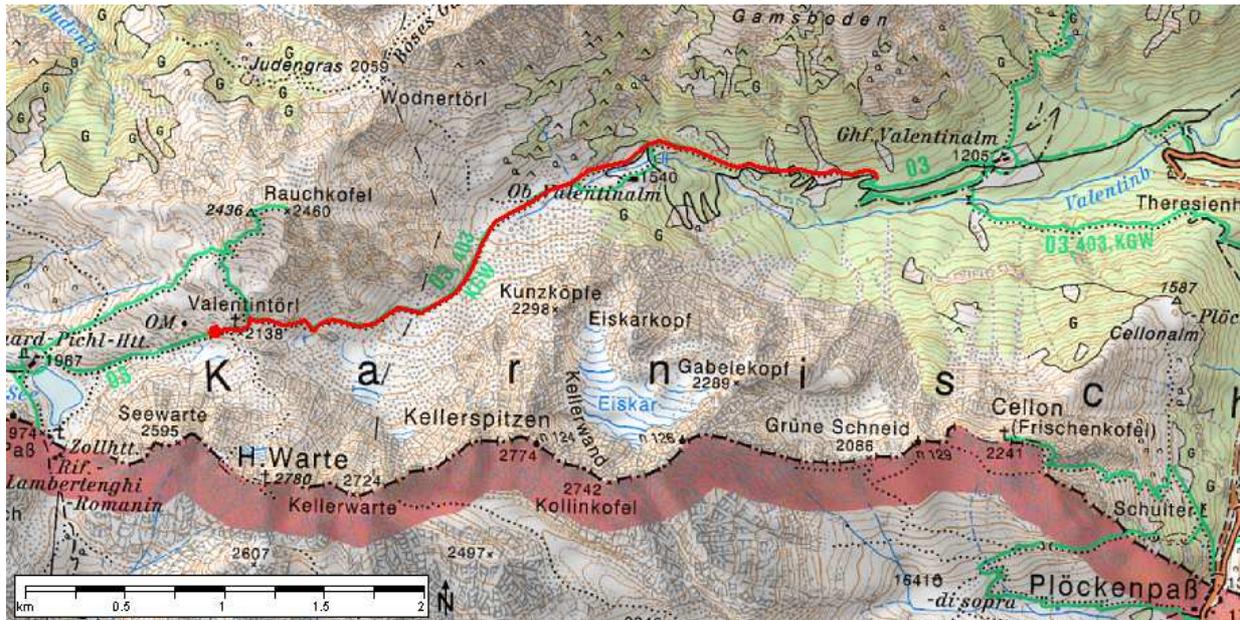


Visitor Center GeoPark Carnic Alps 9635 Dellach im Gailtal 65  
 Telefon: 04718-301 33 E-Mail: [office@geopark-karnische-alpen.at](mailto:office@geopark-karnische-alpen.at) Home: [www.geopark-karnische-alpen.at](http://www.geopark-karnische-alpen.at)

## Geotope 52: Wolayer Valley 2 – The Sea-Lily Rock



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

### Access:

The trail starts from Untere Valentinalm crossing the Valentintörl to Lake Wolayer. Shortly after the descent from the Törl a huge limestone boulder is located a few meters to the south of the marked trail covered with sea-lilies. Have a look!

## Description of the Geotope



The huge limestone boulder is covered by cross and longitudinal sections of mainly sea-lilies (crinoids) although solitary and colonial corals, algae and

Crinoid fossil locality.

stromatoporoids also frequently occur. Hence, the boulder must have derived from very close to the reef-core which composed parts



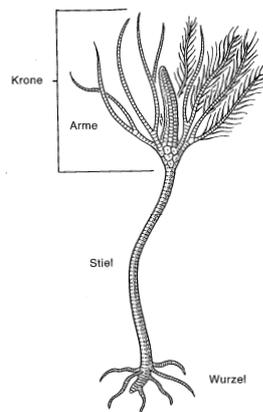
of the cliff of the mountain Seewarte to the south. Most striking, however, are the remains of the sea-lilies which are strongly disarticulated, although several

Reworked stromatoporoid.

decimetre long parts of the stem, the crown, the root and some



branches can clearly be discerned.



Cross-sections of the lower portion of the crown clearly

Cross section of the crown of a crinoid with drawing showing details of the animal.

show the fivefold symmetry typical for the echinoderms (see photo). It can be supposed that these sea-lilies were attached to the sea-bottom and were floating due to changing water turbulence similar to the head of grain in the wind. Although crinoids resemble flowers ("sea lily") they were marine animals which also occur in today oceans. Once they died, they rapidly disarticulated and were embedded into the surrounding sediment or filling empty spaces in the surrounding reef.