



## Wenlock (WEN)

### Block Description

Visit <https://jncc.gov.uk/gcr-site-list>, for more information on GCR blocks and sites  
For Palaeozoic Stratigraphy GCR block descriptions and GCR site lists,  
visit <https://jncc.gov.uk/gcr-blocks-palaeozoic-stratigraphy>

## Introduction

The GCR sites selected for this GCR Block represent the British geological record of Earth history from about 428 to 423 million years ago (Ma). This interval is the second epoch of the the Silurian Period (440 to 410 Ma).

Rocks that formed during the Wenlock Epoch form the the Wenlock Series (part of the Silurian System). The Silurian System is divided into four series (Llandovery (see LDY), Wenlock, Ludlow (see LUD) and Prídolí (see PRIDOL)) and all but one series (the Pridoli) into a number of stages. The Wenlock Epoch is divided into two ages.

Of the eight stratotypes that define the bases to the Silurian stratigraphical divisions, seven are in Britain. The one exception is the base to the Prídolí Series. The chosen level for the base of the Devonian System in the Czech Republic is considerably higher than the base of the 'Old Red Sandstone' which had traditionally been regarded as the Silurian–Devonian boundary in the Welsh Borderland. The new Prídolí Series therefore correlates with the lowest part of the 'Old Red Sandstone' (see **Non-Marine Devonian (NMAR-DEV)**). Graptolites and conodonts have yielded the most refined Silurian zonations, but analogous schemes exist for other groups, notably brachiopods, acritarchs and chitinozoans.

**For discussion of Silurian palaeogeography and palaeontology see Llandovery (LDY).**