



Drumheller Badlands & the Royal Tyrrell Museum

The Canadian Badlands in the Drumheller region of Alberta are a unique part of the province, with grasslands, ghost towns, and hoodoo rocks. The badlands were formed more than 10,000 years ago by glacial floodwaters, which stripped away the original soil and exposed colorful layers of ancient sandstone, mudstone, and coal.

This also exposed an amazing collection of dinosaur fossils. Millions of years ago the badlands were covered by jungles and a shallow sea, and the remains of ancient creatures large and small were fossilized, leaving behind a record of the past that was revealed with the dry landscape.

At the heart of the badlands is the Royal Tyrrell Museum, which houses more than 130,000 fossils. The museum is named for Joseph Tyrrell, who accidentally found the first dinosaur fossil in the region in 1884 while searching for coal. This lucky find was the first known *Albertosaurus*, a member of the *Tyrannosaurus* family that lived in North America 70 million years ago.



By Willem van Valkenburg from Delft, Netherlands - IMG_5085.jpg,
CC BY 2.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=39894961>

