



# Diplodocus

Means "Double beam"

Scientific name: *Diplodocus longus*

## Period:

Late Jurassic (~ 154 – 152 Ma -  
{Mega annum, or million years ago})

## Diet:

Herbivore (plant eater)

## Current day location found:

North America, possibly Africa

## More information:

- The middle part of the tail had a double row of supportive 'chevron bones' underneath, from which the animal derived its name
- It was a sauropod
- Had a long neck and a long whip-like tail
- The huge size of Diplodocus may have been a survival trait, used to deter attacks from contemporary predators such as Ceratosaurus
- Recent evidence points to Diplodocus having spines along its back similar to an iguana
- These pointed spines were made not of bone but a keratin like substance
- The longest dinosaur known from a complete fossil
- Estimated length about 33 m (108 ft)
- Estimated weight 10 to 16 tonnes (about the same as 2 to 3 elephants)