

# Knowledge Organiser #17: Dorset

Where? **Dorset, UK**

Case Study Focus: **Coastal Landforms**

## Basic facts about Dorset

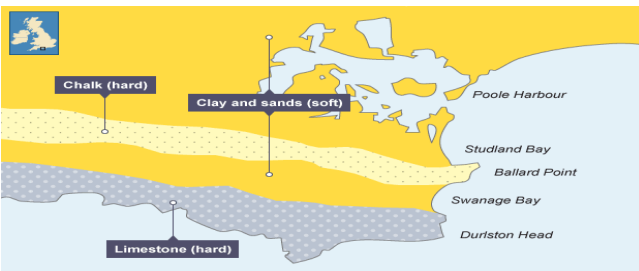
The Dorset coast is famous for its beauty. The Dorset Coast forms part of the 'Jurassic Coast' which extends from Exmouth in East Devon to Old Harry Rocks in Purbeck.

The Jurassic Coast was awarded World Heritage Site status by UNESCO for being a place of 'outstanding universal value'. Through its geology, cliffs, arches, stacks and stumps the coast represents 185 million years of the Earth's history.

The Dorset Coast contains a range of landforms including Durdle Door, Lulworth Cove, Chesil Beach and Old Harry rocks.

Dorset is located in the south of England. Its coastline has examples of many erosional and depositional landforms. For example:

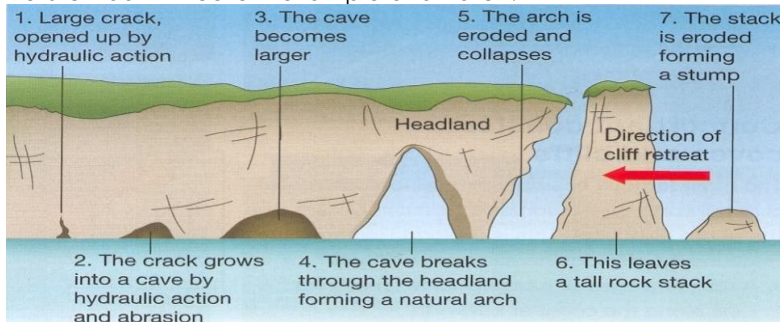
- Swanage is an example of a headland and bay
- Old Harry Rocks is an example of caves, stacks and stumps
- at Chesil Beach there is a bar



## Swanage Bay

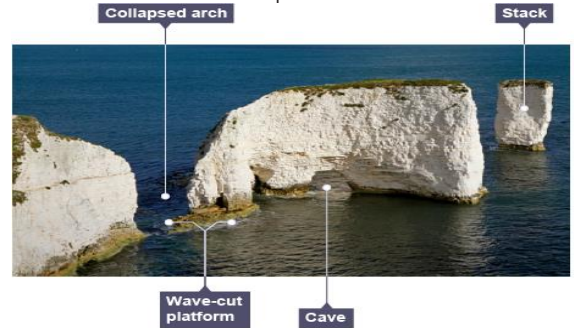
- The area around Swanage is made up of bands of hard and soft rock. The soft rock is made of clay and sands, and the hard rock is chalk and limestone. As erosion processes take place, the clay erodes away quicker than the limestone and chalk.

## Durdle Door – Excellent example of an arch.



## Old Harry Rocks

- Old Harry Rocks are located on the headland between Swanage and Studland Bay. The headland is made out of chalk, a hard rock. The headland juts out into the sea, so it is more vulnerable to high-energy waves. This caused the formation of Old Harry, a stack. Over time Old Harry will collapse to form a stump.

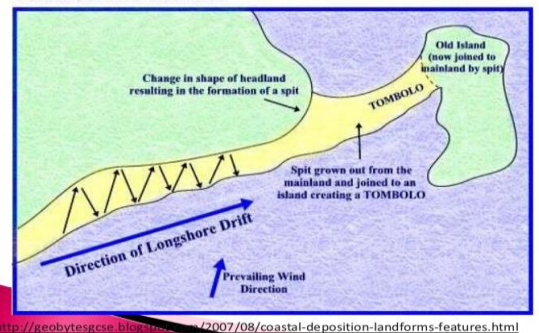


## Chesil Beach

- Chesil Beach is an example of a bar. Sediment has been deposited over time to form a spit. The spit has continued to join to the Isle of Portland. Behind the spit there is The Fleet, a lagoon.



## Formation of a Tombolo



<http://geobytesgcse.blogspot.com/2007/08/coastal-deposition-landforms-features.html>

