



Adapted from:
<http://www.euratlas.com/Atlasphys/Dinariques2.htm>

THE DINARIC MOUNTAINS (DINARIDES)

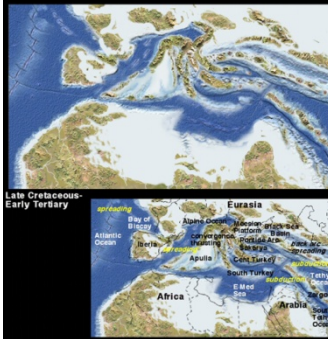
Where: Eastern Adriatic Seaboard

When: 100-50 MYA, Late Cretaceous-Eocene Periods;
 Alpine Orogeny.

How: Convergence of Adriatic and Eurasian Plates
 with consumption of oceanic lithosphere.

What: Mountains rising in Foreland Fold & Thrust Belt
 Rock type: Sedimentary; limestone, dolomite.

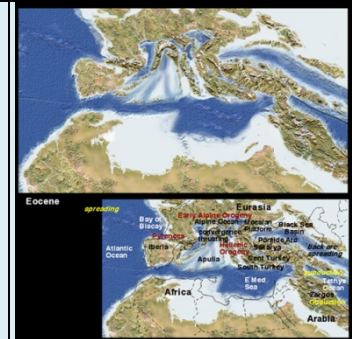
Features: Karst. CO₂ dissolved in rain etches caves and
 sinkholes into this porous but hard rock; little surface
 water; craggy. The Dalmatian islands are the western
 outliers of the Dinarides, isolated as rising Holocene
 sea level flooded the Adriatic Basin, reaching its
 present level ~6,000 B.C.E. The Dalmatian Coast is a
 rare geographical feature named for this region.



Ron Blakey, NAU Geology
 Late Cretaceous Period:
 Crumpling begins as the
 converging plates apply
 lateral stress to rocks.



Dinaric Mountains. © Tvrtko Korbar. White patches are not
 snow, but limestone exposures.



Ron Blakey, NAU Geology
 Eocene Period: Mountain
 ranges are growing rapidly
 and the Black Sea is nearly
 closed.



This land is karst land
 This land is high land
 These Cretaceous mountains
 Are limestone fold lands
 Two plates converged here
 In the Dinarides
 Alongside the blue Adriatic Sea

This land is karst land
 This land is dry land
 Little surface water
 In the karstic thirstlands
 Where rainfall etches
 Big caves and sinkholes
 Alongside the blue Adriatic Sea

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