



Country Borders

Hominin Remains (n=607)

- Localities
- Australopithecus sp./africanus
- Australopithecus sediba
- Paranthropus sp./robustus
- Homo habilis
- Homo sp./erectus/heidelbergensis/archaic sapiens
- Homo sapiens
- 👣 Hominin Footprints

Bathymetry

3482 m



-5566 m

The fossil record of South Africa comprises a wide variety of hominin species. All hominin genera have been documented in the southern part of the African continent: *Australopithecus*, *Paranthropus*, and *Homo*. The species composition, however, is unique. For the first time, an African origin of humans was considered possible based on South African finds and the definitions of *A. africanus* (Dart 1925) and *P./A. robustus* (Broom 1938). The latest discovery of a member of the human family comes from Malapa with *A. sediba* (Berger et al. 2010). Despite the abundance of finds, many questions are unresolved, especially regarding the classification of Early and Middle Pleistocene *Homo* remains and their relation to East African hominin species.

Berger, L.R., de Ruiter, D.J., Churchill, S.E., Schmid, P., Carlson, K.J., Dirks, P.H.G.M., Kibil, J.M. 2010. *Australopithecus sediba*: A New Species of Homo-Like Australopithecine from South Africa. *Science* **328**, 195-204.

Broom, R. 1938. The Pleistocene Anthropoid Apes of South Africa. *Nature* **142**, 377-379.

Dart, R.A. 1925. *Australopithecus africanus*: The ape-man of South Africa. *Nature* **115**, 195-199.

0 100 200 300 400 km